

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS)

100-HQ-200845-1



Serials 1-10

100-HQ-200845

Sec. 1

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

DECLASSIFIED  
RD 42423  
By: MTM  
Date: 8/5/2015

SCREENED  
RD 42423  
(URTS 12819)  
By: MTM  
Date: 8/5/2015

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

SESSION  
SERIALS 1-10

DIRECTOR, FBI (105-14320)

8/17/71

SAC, NEW YORK (105-75111)

VITALIY LVOVICH BELOBORODKO aka  
Viktor  
IS - R (RADIO MOSCOW)

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 11 copies of an LHM regarding captioned subject. Copies are enclosed for Bufiles on VORONIN and SEEGAR and for informant's file.

The source referred to in the LHM is [redacted] who furnished the information to SA JAMES B. DAVIDSON on 8/16/71. Informant advised that although he had met VORONIN before, he did not know his name and the identification of VORONIN was made from a photo.

The LHM is classified "Confidential" as it reflects investigation of a Soviet national the delicate nature of which requires State Department clearance.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

⑤ - Bureau (Encls. 11) (RM)  
(1 - 105-206231) (VORONIN)  
(1 - 100-200845) (SEEGAR)

1 - New York (105-109824) (VORONIN)  
1 - New York (100-83801) (SEEGAR)

1 - New York

JBD:jss  
(9)

/ENCLOSURE

100-200845-

NOT RECORDED

192 AUG 24 1971

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

August 17, 1971

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Vitaliy Lvovich Beloborodko

A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, supplied information set forth below regarding Vitaliy Lvovich Beloborodko and Aleksey V. Voronin.

Vitaliy Lvovich Beloborodko is a Soviet national assigned to New York City as a correspondent for Moscow Television and Radio. Based upon available information and/or his activities, he is suspected of being connected with the Soviet Intelligence Services.

Aleksey V. Voronin is a Soviet national assigned to New York City as a correspondent for Tass News Agency, the official Soviet news gathering agency.

The source advised that he observed the above two Soviets on the evening of August 6, 1971, in the Times Square area of New York City. They were covering a peace rally being conducted on the anniversary of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~GROUP I~~

~~Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification.~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE 100-200845

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Vitaliy Lvovich Beloborodko

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

The source stated that the only interview he saw conducted was between Beloborodko and Pete Seeger, well known folk singer, who is active in the peace movement.

Following the rally in Times Square, the demonstrators proceeded to march to Central Park, however, the Soviets were not observed to follow this activity.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

2\*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**News Around the Dials****Seeger a Cash Guest**

By VAL ADAMS

Pete Seeger, the folk singer barred from an ABC-TV program in 1963 because he refused to sign a loyalty affidavit, will be a guest on the network's *Johnny Cash Show* on Wednesday, March 4, at 9 p.m.

For the Cash show, taped last Thursday in Nashville, Tenn., Seeger sang "Worried Man's Blues" and another song about the plight of the American Indians in the 1830s. There were no songs of social protests or political beliefs.

Cash had wanted to present Seeger on his show last summer, but ABC refused permission, according to Cash. In a personality piece about the country music singer published in *The New York Sunday News* on Feb. 1, Cash was quoted as saying: "I wanted Pete on my program, and still don't understand why they didn't permit it."

Stan Jacobson, a co-producer of the Cash Show, said yesterday there was "never any problem" in booking Seeger this season. Even so, the ABC announcement about Seeger's appearance referred to him as "controversial."

"The controversial folk scholar," said a paragraph in the press release, "once was given a prison sentence (later rescinded) because he cited the First Amendment which guarantees freedom of speech and association rather than to discuss his political beliefs."

In 1955 Seeger refused to answer questions posed by a Congressional committee that was checking on Communist infiltration of the entertainment field. He was convicted of contempt of Congress, but the United States Court of Appeals reversed the decision.

Seeger was barred from an ABC-TV show entitled *Hootenanny* in 1963 because he would not furnish a "sworn affidavit as to his past and present affiliations."

Talent contracts between CBS and Lucille Ball and Ed Sullivan expire at the end of the 1970-71 television season. . . . CBS-TV, which announced it will retain *To Rome With Love* and switch it to Tuesday evening next fall, will make changes in the show to try to attract more viewers. One change is likely to be a cast addition of Walter Brennan.



Walter Brennan

Pete Seeger

over ABC-TV on March 5, suffer the same fate as Paulsen did on "The Return of the Smothers Brothers" over NBC-TV? On the NBC special, Paulsen in initial planning was to be a guest and at the end of the show, Tom Smothers thanked him for his appearance although Pat never appeared.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*C. O. O'Leary  
 J. E. S.  
 R. S. G.*

The Washington Post Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daily News (New York) 26 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date FEB 23 1970100-200845-A

NOT RECORDED

100-200845-A

100-200845-A

55 MAR 1970

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, New York

SUBJECT: PETER SEEGER, was: Pete  
Seeger, Peter Bowers  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: March 28, 1951

2-1  
①  
All for 42  
Card Filed  
4-7-51 mew

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME PETER SEEGER

ALIASES Pete Seeger, Peter Bowers

RACE W SEX M NATIVE BORN X NATURALIZED APR ALIEN

COMMUNIST X SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM  TAB FOR COMSAB

DATE OF BIRTH May 5, 1919 PLACE OF BIRTH New York City

RESIDENCE ADDRESS Route 9, Beacon, New York

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) Weavers-Cromwell Music Company, 129 West 52nd Street, New York City

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)  
None

JJC:JP  
100-83801

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
MARCH 30 1951

RECORDED  
845-10  
Re Leonhardt

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

P B  
G2-SOD 201

9 January 1951

TO: Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Attn: Liaison Officer  
FROM: Chief, Operations Branch, Security & Training Division  
SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter

A review of the appropriate records of the Adjutant General, Department of the Army, revealed that the individual described below has no current military status:

NAME: SEEGER, Peter

ASN: 34335466

DATE OF BIRTH: 3 May 1919

PLACE OF BIRTH: New York City, N Y

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 129 Mac Dougal St., New York, NY

DATE OF DISCHARGE: 14 Dec 1945

ALLEGATION: CPS

SOURCE: 5th Army

Information on the allegation is ~~not~~ reflected in the files of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Department of the Army.

100-200845

Information copy for FBI

385  
NW 41819 16 1951

CONFIDENTIAL

DocId: 5916934 Page 1

SAC, New York

November 24, 1950

Director, FBI

PETE SEEGER

SECURITY MATTER - C

Bureau file #100-370932-2

RECORDED 100-200845-9

Reurlet dated August 8, 1950.

Attached are photostatic copies of communications from Military Intelligence, Washington, D. C. dated April 26, 1943, May 21, 1943, May 27, 1943, June 25, 1943, July 2, 1943, August 2, 1943 and September 4, 1943, with enclosures.

Also attached is a photostatic copy of a clipping from the New York Daily Compass dated September 20, 1950, page 19.

In view of the allegations concerning the captioned individual's Communist sympathies, you are requested to conduct an investigation relative to his activities. Thereafter you should consider whether a Security Index card should be recommended.

Attachments

MET:jdt

MAILED 8  
NOV 24 1950  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NW518 DocId: 59509341 Page 8

Fairbank apt 21-51

B3  
JFCS  
mch

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RE: PETE SEEGER  
 (SINGER)  
 SECURITY MATTER - C  
 (LOUIS BUDENZ 400)

DATE: August 8, 1950

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party.

BUDENZ advised SA WILLIAM J. MC CARTHY, JR. on June 30, 1950, of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview.

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of these questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows:

1. Identify individual
  - a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
  - b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
  - c. Any aliases
2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
  - a. If seen at a closed meeting, get date, place and persons present at meeting;
  - b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
  - c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.
3. Documents
  - a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.
    1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", any any front publications or other publications.

CC: NY 62-8988

WJM:APK/DM

NW 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 9

100-200845-9  
 original in 100-37093  
 RECORDING NOV 29 1950  
 25

100-37093  
 24-50  
 11-24-50  
 5/11

Letter to Director

4 Fronts

Was individual active in front organizations.

- a. Which organizations
- b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;

What work;

Who knew it;

Did individual ever do any special work for party.

6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.

7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.

8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?

9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?

10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?

11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?

12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?

13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?

14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.

**Letter to Director**

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect.

The original of each memo has been reviewed by Mr. BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, NY file 62-8988.

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol.

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C".

PETE SEEGER

Folk singer.

Although I am under the impression that SEEGER, along with OSCAR BRAND, entertained the Convention of the Communist Party in a closed dinner session in honor of MOTHER BLOOR around 1944; I was first advised of his membership in the Communist Party by ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and V. J. JEROME in 1945. This arose because of his growing cooperation with EARL ROBINSON, particularly in the People's Songs venture.

ENCLOSURE

100 - 200845-9  
NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 02

## Office Memo

• UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*for*  
*Joe*

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: RE: PETE SEEGER  
 (SINGER)  
 SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: August 8, 1950

(LOUIS BUDENZ 400)

*Pete Seeger*

100!

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3. Documents
  - a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.
    1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", any front publications or other publications.

CC: NY 62-8988

WJM:APK/DM

NW10028100 DocId: 59169341 Page 13

SERIALIZED

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11

1950

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100-200845-8

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EX-143

RECORDED

34

INDEXED

Letter to Director

4. Fronts

Was individual active in front organizations.

a. Which organizations

b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;

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ENCLOSURE

100-200845-8  
~~100-374932-1~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

SEP 4 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L.R. Forney*

L. R. FORNEY  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

*1 file folder  
9/1/43  
R.L.*

100-200845-7

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&  
INDEXED  
199  
*File*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

24-44799

NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 17

53 SEP 14 1943 14

## WAR DEPARTMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

VIA-10-56743 DMR 10/1943  
 X-5-1142043 X-610-7101  
 CPMR Open File 610-710

File No. I-610-710 Date 4 August 1943

Subject: OSEKIN, Peter, Pvto.,  
 ASN 34556400,  
 2nd Academic Squadron,  
 Keebler Field, West Islip, N.Y.

Amarillo Army Air Field  
 Texas.

## REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

Potential subversion under W.D. Letter dated 9 November 1942, File AG 014.511 (11-3-42) OB-S-B-X, Subject "Disposition of Potentially Subversive Personnel".

Subject wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, citizens or not, after the war, and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship.

## DETAILS:

Fourteen-point Topic Outline: (All points covered in CI-R1 Report, this Office, submitted 25 March 1943, are omitted herein.)

## 1. Personal Data:

See CI-R1 Report dated 25 March 1943.  
 Marital Status: Married (MEMO A)

## 2. Family Data:

See CI-R1 Report dated 25 March 1943.  
 Wife: Yochi Otsu Seeger, Biloxi, Miss.

Investigation Copies To:

G-2 \_\_\_\_\_

G-2 SC

P10 \_\_\_\_\_

Dist. CIO

Information Copies To:

G-2

## Military History:

1924-1932, Grammar School, Spring Hill, Conn.  
 graduated. (MEMO B)  
 1933-1936, High School, Avon Old Farm, Avon, Conn.  
 (MEMO C)  
 1936-1938, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.,  
 non-graduate. (MEMO D)

Transferred, in grade, from Keebler Field, Miss.,  
 to Amarillo Army Air Field, Amarillo, Texas,  
 pursuant to Paragraph 80, Special Orders 211,  
 Headquarters, Keebler Field, Miss., dated  
 20 July 1943.

ENCLOSURE

## REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

FORWARDED,

MID, Washington, D. C.

3 copies..

copies..

copies..

copies..

STACY KNOFF

Colonel, U. S. A. F. S. A. D. 5-43-930

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CI-R1 REPORT

17316

DETAILS: (continued)

9. Organizations:

See CI-R1 dated 25 March 1943.  
Harvard Student Union (MEMO E)  
Almanac Singers (MEMOS F, G, J, S)  
Youth Workshop, 44 W. 18th St., New York, N.Y.,  
an organization affiliated with American Youth  
Congress. (MEMO G)

12. Acquaintances:

Pvt. Morton Diamondstein, ASN 52628009, Hq Btry.  
387th F.A. Bn., APO 104, Camp Adair, Oregon. (MEMO G)  
Miss Dorcas Bishop, Librarian, Harvard Graduate  
School of Education, Cambridge, Mass. (MEMO H)  
Edward Steele, 1904 Meridian St., Nashville, Tenn.  
(MEMO I)  
William P. Ponobaker, 1334 State St., New Orleans,  
La. (MEMO I)  
George Nishikawa, 336 East 116 St., New York, N.Y.  
(MEMO I)  
Mrs. L. Gilbreath, 5521 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich.  
(MEMO J)  
T. Leonard Mikules, 419 4th St., N.W., Washington,  
D.C. (MEMO K)  
John G. Gordon, Jr., New York Public Library,  
New York, N.Y. (MEMO K)  
Mr. Julian Borcovici, 5757 Second Blvd., Detroit,  
Mich. (MEMOS L, M, N, O, P)  
2nd Lt. Alan Starts, A.C., Mitchell Field, Oshkosh,  
Wis. (MEMO T)

14. Police Record:

The O.N.I. and F.B.I. at Bridgeport, Conn., New  
Haven, Conn., and Boston, Mass. had no record  
pertaining to Subject. (MEMOS Q & R) The F.B.I.  
record on Subject at Detroit, Mich. shows him as  
member of Almanac Singers, an organization possibly  
supported by Communist party. (MEMO S)

ADVERSE INFORMATION:

1. See CI-R1 Report this office dated 25 March 1943.
2. Subject's supervisors at Harvard University considered that Subject  
had radical ideas (MEMOS C & H), and one of the supervisors thought  
that Subject had a leaning towards Communism (MEMO H).
3. Subject, while attending Harvard University, was an active member of  
the Harvard Student Union, fused from a number of organizations including  
the Peace Society, League for Industrial Democracy, and the National  
Student League (MEMO E).

## ADVERSE INFORMATION: (continued)

4. One of Subject's acquaintances is of the opinion that Subject is in sympathy with the Communist cause, may possibly be a member of the Communist party, and stated that Subject has often attended Communist party meetings (MEMO G).
5. One of Subject's acquaintances is reported, from a reliable source, to be a self-confessed Communist, ardent in his love for the Communistic teachings of Russia, and capable of and likely to influence anyone evincing any interest in Communism (MEMO L).
6. Subject was the leader of the Almanac Singers (See MEMO J this report and CI-R1 Report this office dated 25 March 1943). On 1 January 1943 an article appeared in the New York World Telegram quoting the Daily Worker as stating that the Almanac Singers are the pride of the Communist party. (See MEMO M, CI-R1 Report re Subject dated 7 June 1943 made at HQ, 2nd Service Command).

## UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

None.

## REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS:

See CI-R1 Report dated 25 March 1943.

Subject transferred in grade to Amarillo Army Air Field, Amarillo, Texas, pursuant to Paragraph 38, Special Orders 211, Headquarters, Keesler Field, Mississippi, dated 30 July 1943.

The adverse information shown in this report serves to supplement and enhance that contained in preceding reports. It shows Subject to be an idealist whose devotion to radical ideologies is such as to make his loyalty to the United States under all circumstances questionable.

This Officer believes that Subject will be further influenced along questionable lines by his new wife, the former Toshi Ohta, who is half-Japanese. Subject's devotion to his wife was so strong before their marriage that he protested what he considered to be the improper treatment of American-born Japanese. (See Reason For Investigation). Correspondence between the two indicated that both Subject and his then fiancee were deeply interested in political trends, particularly anti-Fascist, and that she was a member of several Communist infiltrated organizations. Their marriage will quite possibly fuse and strengthen their individual radical tendencies.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CI-R1 REPORT

REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS: (continued)

Investigation at this station from 25 March 1943 to date hereof has produced no evidence which would lead this Officer to change the opinion set forth in the original CI-R1 Report that Subject is potentially subversive.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

This Officer recommends that the case be closed at this Station for the reason that Subject has transferred to Amarillo Air Field, Amarillo, Texas.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
2 August 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SCHICKER, Peter, Pvt.,  
ASN 34535466,  
2nd Academic Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Interview with John E. Bell,  
1st Sergeant, ASN 56117504.

On 2 August 1945, this Special Operator interviewed First Sergeant John E. Bell regarding Subject.

Informant stated that he was the First Sergeant of the 2nd Academic Squadron, and had known Subject since about 1 June 1943.

Informant stated that Subject went to New York on furlough during the latter part of July, 1943; that Subject returned to the 2nd Academic Squadron on 31 July 1943; that immediately upon his return, Subject came to the Orderly Room and stated to Informant that he, Subject, had married while at home and had brought his wife back to Biloxi, Mississippi; that Subject applied for permission to live off the Post, but upon being informed that he was about to be transferred to another Post, Subject pursued his application no further.

Special Operator's Note:

Due to Subject's transfer the records at this Station reveal no change in Subject's marital status. However, mail coverage and investigations conducted by this Operator show that Subject planned to marry Miss Toshi Ohta while on furlough. Yoshi Ohta returned to Biloxi, Mississippi with Subject so it is, therefore, presumed by this Operator that Subject is now married to Toshi Ohta. (See Memo F and G, CIR-R1 dated 9 June 1943, submitted by HQ. 2nd Service Command.)

*Lyle B. Cherry*  
LYLE B. CHERRY  
Special Operator, P.I.O.

(Mimeo A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hartford, Connecticut  
2 June 1943  
I/b10-710; IV-B1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Attempted interview with former teachers of  
Spring Hill Grammar School, Litchfield, Conn.

On 26 April 1943 this Agent visited the Foreman School, Litchfield, Connecticut, formerly known as the Spring Hill Grammar School, regarding information of Subject's attendance.

The available records of the Foreman School did not cover the period of Subject's attendance, and no member of the present faculty were connected with the School during that period.

It was noted that the Spring Hill Grammar School was conducted by one Mrs. Mabel Spinney and Miss Dorothy Bull and was taken over some years ago by the present owners. Further investigation disclosed that Miss Bull was deceased and Mrs. Spinney had changed her residence to New York and maintained a summer home in West Cornwall, Connecticut.

To this date, Mrs. Spinney had not returned to her Summer home, and inasmuch as Subject attended this School at a very young age, it is doubtful that the information obtained would be of any value.

/s/ Matthys M. Laubscher  
MATTHYS M. LAUBSCHER  
Agent, CIC

(MEMO B)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hartford, Connecticut  
23 April 1943  
I/b10-710; IV-B1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Education check -  
Avon Old Farm High School

On 23 April 1943 this Agent checked the records at Avon Old Farm High School, Avon, Connecticut and interviewed Dean Sears regarding Subject.

Sears informed this Agent that Subject attended the aforementioned school from 1932 to 1936, and that he remembered Subject well. Sears added that Subject was a nephew of Allan Seeger (American Poet of World War fame) and that Subject possessed unusual literary talents. Sears continued that while Subject attended the Avon School he was the founder and editor of a small school newspaper which gained popularity and is at present widely read by the alumni.

In describing Subject, Sears said that he was an introvertive, shy, reticent type, physically weak and for these reasons was not popular with his fellow students. Sears was of the impression that Subject's parents were estranged and that Subject's home life and environment were not desirable. Sears, however, held great respect for Subject's mentality and stated that in his opinion Subject was completely honest and reliable. Subject is believed to have attended Harvard University after leaving Avon Old Farm High School.

In further discussing Subject's background, Sears stated that Subject called on him about three years after leaving the Avon School. At that time, Sears said that Subject appeared to have assumed a "Bohemian" attitude in dress and appearance. From this visit, Sears concluded that Subject had developed a somewhat radical outlook on life.

Sears did not feel that Subject was in any way dangerous, but he did suspect that Subject had aligned himself with the so-called radical element of Harvard University.

/s/ Matthys M. Laubscher  
MATTHYS M. LAUBSCHER  
Agent, CIC

(MEMO ~~E~~) C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
27 May 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Inspection of records at Harvard University

On 27 May 1943, this Agent visited University Hall, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, Mass., to examine Subject's scholastic record.

Examination of these records revealed that Subject entered Harvard College in September, 1936, successfully completed the first year, returned for the sophomore year in the fall of 1937, but did not complete the second year, being allowed to withdraw because of financial troubles 12 April 1938. Grades in the first year were fair. No credit was received for the work of the second year.

Major field of concentration was to be Sociology.

These records contain a note that Subject's mother and father are separated. Mother's address is given as:

Constance DeClyver (Edson) Seeger  
75 South Broadway  
Nyack, New York.

In March, 1938 Subject was placed on probation for 'cutting' classes and for unsatisfactory work. In April, he was allowed to withdraw. Reason: financial troubles.

A further notation shows that a record of Subject's marks was sent to City College of New York.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO ~~25~~) D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 28, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Inspection of records, Harvard University

On 28 May 1943, this Agent visited the office of the Supervisor of Undergraduate Non-Athletic Activities, University Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., to ascertain if Subject was a member of The Harvard Student Union.

This Agent personally examined a list of members of the Harvard Student Union, dated November, 1937, on which appeared the Subject's name followed by the word 'Secretary'.

AGENT'S NOTE: Examination of 'The Harvard Progressive', published by the Progressive Committee of the Harvard Student Union and the official organ of the Student Union, shows that Subject was listed on its staff as Secretary.

The Harvard Student Union (not to be confused with the Harvard Union, which is officially a part of the University) represents an amalgamation of organizations which reflects the liberal sentiment of the college. It is a chapter of the American Student Union. It came into existence in 1935 by the fusion of a number of organizations, including the Peace Society, League for Industrial Democracy, and The National Student League.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO ~~E~~) E

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/weg  
Detroit, Michigan  
18 June 1948  
VI/H-10-687m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34535466  
207th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Dr. Margaret Ruth Smith

On 15 June 1948, this Agent interviewed Dr. Margaret Ruth Smith, Wayne University, Cass and Warren, Detroit, Michigan, Director of Student Activities, in an effort to learn if she knew anything about Subject or a group known as the Almanac Singers, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER POWERS to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Informant stated a group by the name of the Almanac Singers had performed several times at Wayne University, rendering hill-billy songs and American folk music. The group had last appeared at Wayne University on 17 February 1948. She believed this group had performed in various labor unions throughout the city, and were very much interested in labor unions, as most of the students at Wayne interested in labor attended the concerts and were responsible for their appearance.

Informant could give no other information about this group, had not heard of any PETER POWERS or PETER SINGER, and did not know the names of the four or five members of the band.

/s/ W. C. G.  
W. C. GUTHIER,  
Agent, C.I.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(info E)

Corvallis, Oregon  
7 June 1943  
IX-O/R-17420m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: GEUGER, Peter, Pvt.,  
ASN 34385466,  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

To : Interview with Pvt. Morton Dimondstein.

On 5 June 1943 this Agent interviewed Pvt. Morton Dimondstein, ASN 32626009, Hq. Rtry. 307th P.A. Bn., APO 104, Camp Adair, Oregon, regarding Subject, Peter GEUGER. This interview was made in pursuance to a request received by the Portland Branch, AG of S, G-2, WDC & PA from the AG of S, G-2, WDC & PA in a letter dated 27 April 1943.

Dimondstein advised this Agent that he had become acquainted with Subject about four years ago in New York City. Subject, to the best of his knowledge, was born in New York City and attended Harvard University for a short time. Subject was a musician by profession, played the banjo very well and collected and composed folk music. Dimondstein stated that Subject traveled around the country most of the time collecting folk music and entertaining with his music. Subject's parents are divorced, his mother lives some place in Florida, and his father works for the Library of Congress, Music Division in Washington, D. C. Dimondstein had met the father on several occasions but knew nothing about the rest of Subject's family.

Dimondstein explained that he became acquainted with Subject through the Youth Workshop of which they were both members. He explained that the Youth Workshop was an organization of about 100 members in New York who were interested in cultural work. He explained that the organization had space rented where they would hold meetings and organize entertainment groups, both musical and dramatic. The organization also produced posters and other types of displays. The Youth Workshop was affiliated with the American Youth Congress and their posters and displays were produced for distribution by the latter organization, and their entertainment groups were organized for the purpose of conducting tours under the auspices of the American Youth Congress. Dimondstein stated that he was an artist and that his part in the organization was the production of posters, but that Subject as a musician was instrumental in composing music and organizing entertainment groups for the Youth Workshop. Dimondstein explained that the Youth Workshop originally had its headquarters at 66 E. 8th Street in New York, but that they later moved to 44 W. 18th Street in the same city.

According to Dimondstein, the Youth Workshop as an affiliate of the American Youth Congress was in accord with the policies of that organization and was active in the dissemination of these policies. He explained that the American Youth Congress advocated government subsidized education and training of the Youth of the country, especially in the cultural fields. The American

(MEMO 6)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Youth Congress was also opposed to war; according to Dimondstein, and Subject, as far as he knew, was fully in accord with the policy of the organization.

Dimondstein stated that he had recently received a letter from Subject in which Subject had expressed the opinion that he was not being shipped overseas because of his association with a Japanese girl. Dimondstein explained that he had met this girl once in Subject's home in New York and that he always knew her as "Togi" but that he believed her true name was Toshi Okta. He explained that Toshi was a Japanese girl who was born in Berlin, and that he knew nothing about her except that she was in the dress business some place in New York. Dimondstein stated that he understood that Subject was engaged to Toshi and intended to marry her sometime.

Dimondstein, when asked if he knew to what organizations Subject belonged, stated that he was a member of the Youth Workshop, the Almanac Players (a musical organization), and possibly a member of the Communist party. He admitted that he was not certain of the latter but stated that Subject often attended Communist meetings and in his opinion Subject was in sympathy with the Communist cause. Dimondstein also stated that he himself had attended many Communist meetings and had a number of friends who were Communists, but that he had never become a member of the organization. Dimondstein, in explaining the reasons for Subject's Communistic leanings, stated that it must be realized that he was only speaking from his own experience and what he knew of Subject, but that in his opinion Subject was only interested in the Communistic party from the standpoint of securing their backing for a program of subsidization of the cultural professions such as artists and musicians. He explained that in his opinion this was the basis of most artists' interest in the Communist party as under their program the artist had an opportunity to produce his works without worry of starving to death, as they were subsidized by the government for such work.

Dimondstein stated that there was no question in his mind but that Subject was entirely loyal and that he felt that he understood him well enough to know that he was practical enough to realize that this war, however distasteful it may be, must be fought and won before attention could be given to anything else. He explained that the American Youth Congress had dissolved upon the outbreak of war because its policies were inconsistent with the prosecution of the war and could not function under wartime conditions.

AGENT'S NOTES: Dimondstein, when discussing himself as well as Subject, appeared to be frank, and in the opinion of this Agent, was not attempting to withhold any information regarding Subject or Subject's activities. He was not hesitant to discuss his opinions, nor to admit his affiliations with the Communist party or the American Youth Congress, and in the opinion of this Agent, the information obtained from him can be considered reliable.

/S/ Jack H. Dunn  
JACK H. DUNN,  
Special Agent, CIC

(memo 6)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
28 May 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Interview with Miss Dorcas Bishop, Supervisor of Subject's part-time work.

On 28 May 1943, this Agent interviewed Miss Dorcas Bishop, Librarian, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, Mass., regarding Subject.

Bishop stated that Subject was employed on a part time basis for about six months from September, 1943 while he was a sophomore at Harvard College.

After stating that Subject's work was entirely satisfactory, Bishop stated that he was 'modern' in his political ideas. When asked to expand on this point, Bishop said that Subject seemed to have radical ideas, with a strong leaning toward Communism. She continued by saying that Subject was strong-willed and highly opinionated in his views. Subject's brother, John Seeger, who was also at this time a student employee at the same library, had expressed concern, Bishop said, over the fact that the so-called progressive school which Subject had attended had not done him any good. Bishop stated that in this statement and others similar to it, John seemed to show dissatisfaction with Subject's liberal, progressive political ideas.

Bishop concluded by saying that in March or April, 1938, she heard that Subject had withdrawn from the college and that he was living 'on his own' in Boston. She added that she knew nothing of Subject's extra-curricular activities or of his acquaintances.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO ~~G~~) H

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
28 May 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Attempt to interview former teacher and acquaintance at Harvard University.

In attempting to find acquaintances of Subject, this Agent contacted the following people who remembered him slightly or insufficiently to supply any information about him:

Mr. William A. Heaman, Manager of The Harvard Union, where Subject was employed from February to June, 1937.

Miss M. Murray, Ass't. Manager of The Harvard Union.

Miss G. Baldwin and Mrs. J. Ryan, Harvard Student Employment Office, who supervised Subject's temporary employment.

Subject's roommates at Leverett House, not available at this time, in this city are:

Edward Steele, 1904 Meridien St., Nashville, Tenn.  
William F. Pennebaker, 1334 State St., New Orleans.  
George Nishikawa, 336 East 116 St., New York.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO ~~2~~) I

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WOO/weg  
Detroit, Michigan  
16 June 1943  
VI/N-10-587m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 54355466  
507th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Mrs. L. Gilbreath  
(acquaintance)

On 15 June 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. L. Gilbreath, housewife, 5621 Cass Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, acquaintance of Subject, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SEEGER to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Informant stated she had never heard of a man by the name of PETER SEEGER, but that she had met a man by the name of PETER BOWERS, in April, 1943, who was the leader of a group of singers, four in number, called the Almanac Singers. This group had arrived from New York City to give a concert at the Art Institute, Detroit, Michigan, and had come to the Gilbreath Record Shop through the recommendation of a friend of theirs, who was a customer at informant's record shop, in order to store their instruments. Mrs. Gilbreath could not recall who the name of this customer was.

After the concert at the Art Institute, the Almanac Singers stored their instruments at the Record Shop, and went away for a period of about two weeks. They came back to Detroit, and had with them a girl by the name of Bess Lomatz, who is the daughter of John Lomatz, eminent musician who has made a deep and intensive study of American folk music. Informant remembered Miss Lomatz particularly since her father was a famous musician. The four members of the Almanac Singers were PETER, the leader, Art, Hatch, and Joe, all surnamed BOWERS. Informant asked whether they were all related, and PETER BOWERS replied that the name had been chosen to be used by all of the singers. Mrs. Gilbreath, therefore, had never heard their real names, with the exception of Bess Lomatz.

PETER BOWERS was described as about 6'0" in height, slender, about 140 lbs., reddish hair, blemished complexion, about 22 years of age, rather sloppy in appearance, but very courteous and friendly, and quiet mannered. He appeared to be very intelligent, and had an inexhaustable knowledge of American Folk music, and liked to talk about it very much. The only times informant would see PETER BOWERS would be when the group came for their instruments.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/wcg  
Detroit, Michigan  
18 June 1943  
VI/N-10-587m

Informant stated she had never heard of the group before they came to her record shop to store their instruments, and that the only times she would see them was when they would call for their instruments, and any discussion they would have would be incidental. She believes she has seen the group for possibly seven or eight times, and she further stated she has no reason to doubt the loyalty and honesty of PETER BOWERS, as she had never heard anything to make her believe otherwise. Mrs. Gilbreath further stated that she had never had any discussion with PETER BOWERS along political lines, and that their only topic of conversation when she saw him would be about music.

AGENT'S NOTE: Mr. L. Gilbreath was not at home, and will not be back for a couple of weeks; he is an auditor and his work takes him out of town a great deal. Mrs. Gilbreath believes that he would know less about the group and PETER BOWERS than she, as he was seldom at home when they called for their instruments. Mrs. Gilbreath appeared to be honest and sincere in her statements, although she had difficulty in recalling specific incidents, and knew the group very vaguely.

/s/ W. C. G.  
W. C. GUNTHER,  
Agent, C.I.C.

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(useo ~~Z~~) J

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
28 May 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Inspection of records, Leverett House, Harvard University

On Thursday, 27 May 1943, this Agent visited the master's lodgings, Leverett House, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., to secure information on Subject's education and organizations.

Examination of the records there, revealed that Subject resided at Leverett House during part of the 1937-38 term. A notation on his application stated that Subject had lived at Harvard Union during the previous school year.

Subject's extra-curricular activities were listed as track, tennis, instrumental club, painting, and drawing.

AGENT'S NOTE: There is no one at Leverett House at the present time who knows Subject. The present master assumed the position only recently. The former master, now Professor Murdock, did not recall Subject. Messrs. Mikules, DeHood, and Gordan, listed as advisors to Subject, are no longer attached to the University. Latest address of these men are: T. Leonard Mikules, 419 Fourth St., N.W., Washington, D. C.; John D. Gordan, Jr., New York Public Library; DeHood, address unknown.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO K)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

cc/wog  
Detroit, Michigan  
16 June 1943  
VI-11-10-587m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34383466,  
507th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with H. Bannister

On 12 May 1943, this Agent interviewed H. Bannister, manager, Radio Station WNWJ, 630 W. Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan, who is a brother-in-law of Julian Bercovici, an acquaintance of Subject, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SINGER to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Informant stated he has known Bercovici for about two years, and that Bercovici was a self-confessed Communist, was ardent in his love for Russia, the Russian people, and the Communistic teachings of Russia, and for all Communistic ideology.

Bercovici was described as 5'7", 140 lbs., very dark hair, dark complexion, and that he was about 26 years of age. Bercovici was said to be of a rather pleasant appearance, very unassuming in his ways, shy and retiring by nature. He was born in New York.

Informant stated Bercovici married his sister about two years ago in New York, and they have a baby boy. Bercovici's father is a radio news commentator in Rochester, New York, and is said to have been born in Rumania.

Informant believed Bercovici to be a college graduate, that he had taken a Liberal Arts course, but that he had no practical education to help him earn his living.

Bercovici has been employed by two or three war plants in Detroit, doing menial labor, and is believed to be now engaged in war work at some war plant in Detroit. Informant had heard him mention the name of the plant, but had forgotten it.

Informant stated Bercovici has been living at 5757 Second Boulevard for about a year, and that he recommended Bercovici to the owners as far as his honesty was concerned when he moved into the apartment.

Informant did not think that Bercovici was a member of the Communist Party, stating that he seemed too shy to join the Party and take an active part in its meetings.

(memo D) L

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WFO/wca  
Detroit, Michigan  
19 June 1948  
VI/H-10-587m

Bercovici is very much interested in music, although he does not play any musical instrument. His love for all Russian music was particularly apparent. Informant did not know of any connection Bercovici may have had with the Almanac Singers, and had never heard of an organization by that name. Bercovici has roomers, and they may or may not have some connection with that Society.

Informant was of the opinion that Bercovici's whole education was one-sided. He imagined that Bercovici had studied and learned about Communism in College, and had from that time on only read and studied one side of the story, and that he probably did not read or study anything but Communism. Bercovici's whole attitude was immature, and he would not acknowledge any other form of government but Communistic, and when Informant and he would get into arguments, Bercovici had only one thought, that Communism was the only salvation for the world.

Informant had spent about five evenings with Bercovici since he came to Detroit, and all of the evenings were wasted in a useless attempt to reform Bercovici's way of thinking. Informant stated he had become disgusted, and would use any means he could to get out of seeing Bercovici, as he felt he was wasting his time, that he would never be able to change Bercovici's Communistic leanings.

Informant believed that Bercovici was a deep thinker, but that he only thought along one line, that he was an introvert, and was frustrated because of his inability to do anything but common labor.

Bercovici did not have the necessary ambition to become a real menace to the American way of life. Informant had at one time thought of turning him in to the FBI for an investigation, when he stated he was working in a war factory, but Informant had thought later that Bercovici was harmless, and that he didn't think he would hurt anyone.

Bercovici not only professed his belief in Communism in regards to Communism for the United States, but loved Russia, her people, her institutions, her army, and her way of life. He definitely wanted to see Germany defeated, but only because Germany was a menace to Russia, and not because Germany was a menace to the United States. Informant believed that if Russia had sided with Germany, Bercovici would still be all for Russia, and wouldn't think anything of betraying the United States.

Bercovici was capable of influencing anyone that had a tendency to agree with him, and Informant believed if anyone showed any interest in Communism, he would leave no stone unturned to persuade that person that Communism was the only form of government the world should know. Bercovici would have no friends who disagreed with his way of thinking.

(MEMO F) L

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/wcg  
Detroit, Michigan  
18 June 1948  
VI/H-10-587m

AGUM's NOTE: Informant is a veteran of the last war, served overseas, and appeared very bitter toward anyone who would advocate the overthrow of the American Government. It is this Agent's belief that he tried to be entirely unprejudiced, and at no time did he show a personal dislike of Borcovici.

/s/ W. C. G.  
W. C. GUNTER,  
Agent, CIC

(unintelligible)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/wcg  
Detroit, Michigan  
16 June 1948  
VI/H-10-687m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER BERCOVICI, PFC.  
ASN 34355450,  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

To : Interview with Mrs. P. Harr

On 12 May 1948, this Agent interviewed Mrs. P. Harr, office manager, Patterson Brothers, 3050 E. Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan, which firm is landlord to Julian Bercovicci, an acquaintance of Subject, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER BERCOVICI to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Informant stated that Bercovicci moved into the apartment at 5757 Second Boulevard in September, 1942, and that he had been recommended as to his honesty by a Mr. Bannister, who was a radio announcer or manager at one of Detroit's Radio Stations.

Informant described Bercovicci as 5'6", 155 lbs., about 27 years of age, and very dark.

Bercovicci seemed shy and quiet, and had a rather pleasant appearance. He is working in a war plant in Detroit, for whom Informant did not know.

Informant could give no further information concerning Bercovicci.

/s/ W. C. G.  
W. C. GUNTHER,  
Agent, CIC

(RAGO ~~E~~) M

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/wcg  
Detroit, Michigan  
18 June 1943  
VI/N-10-587m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Interview with Wm. Bain.

On 17 June 1943, this Agent interviewed Wm. Bain, line foreman, Terstedt Manufacturing Company, Fort and West End, Detroit, Michigan, supervisor of Julian Bercovici, who is an acquaintance of Subject, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SEEGER to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Informant stated Bercovici has been working as instrument adjuster for about six months at the Terstedt Division of the General Motors Corporation and that prior to this time he worked at the Detroit Transmission for a month as lathe operator, resigning from that position because it was not his line of work. Bercovici also worked at the Packard Motor Company for a few months, but was laid off for some unknown reason. He also worked as optical inspector for Bausch and Lomb, in Rochester, New York, prior to his coming to Detroit in 1941.

Bercovici was described as 5'6" tall, 130 lbs., very dark hair and dark, sallow complexion, appearing rather sickly. He has been late many mornings, and has been absent from work quite a few times, claiming sickness. Informant was of the opinion that he did not get much sleep, for he has had to waken Bercovici several times at his bench.

Informant stated that Bercovici was born in New York, and attended the University of New York, graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree, and that his mother was born in Bucharest, Hungary, and his father, who is a radio news commentator, was born in New York. Bercovici is married, and has one child.

Bain stated that Bercovici is a very mild mannered and timid person, very shy, and when asked about anything is very inquisitive and wishes to know why he is being questioned. He was described as being very sharp and intelligent.

Informant had never observed any tendency of Bercovici to lean toward Communism, but stated that he was a queer sort of person, and was one who undoubtedly thought very deeply without saying much, and has been noticed going home with several persons who are quite active in the union, and who it is believed have a Communistic turn of mind.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WCG/wcg  
Detroit, Michigan  
18 June 1943  
VI/N-10-587m

Bercovici's work as instrument adjuster is a very precise operation, and he performs his duty satisfactorily, apart from his sleepiness.

Informant would not venture to say anything about Bercovici's honesty or loyalty, as he has had no opportunity to discuss things with him, but it was his personal opinion that he would bear watching, but that he had not shown any disloyal traits while working for Terstedte.

AGENT'S NOTE: Informant has been observing Bercovici since he started to work for him, as he seemed to be a very peculiar individual, and informant knew quite a bit about him, as he wanted to know something of Bercovici's background in view of his peculiar actions and looks. Mr. Bain was very cooperative, and it is this Agent's opinion that he withheld no information about Bercovici.

/s/ W. C. G.  
W. C. GUNTHER,  
Agent, C.I.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JMN/vt  
Detroit, Michigan  
19 June 1945  
VI/N-10-587m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEIGER, Pvt.  
ASN 54385466  
307th Tech. Sqn. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Police check on Julian Bercovici, acquaintance of Subject.

On 1 May 1945 the records of the O.N.I., Detroit Police, and the Michigan State Police were examined regarding Julian Bercovici, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SEIGER to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Their files contained no information concerning Julian Bercovici, acquaintance of Subject.

/s/ J. W. Hec  
JOHN W. McORMICK  
Agent, C.I.G.

(MEMO Q)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JRW/vc  
Detroit, Michigan  
19 June 1943  
VI/H-10-587m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : F.B.I. Check on Julian Bercovici, acquaintance of Subject.

On 1 May 1943 the records of the F.B.I. were examined regarding Julian Bercovici, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SEEGER to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

Their files contained the following information:

An individual identified as "Jay" inquired of Jack Rankin how to reach the Almanac Singers. He was informed to call Polacheck at Tr. 27366 which is Julian Bercovici's phone. Polacheck is leader of Almanac Singers, a Communistic singing group.

No other information concerning Bercovici appeared in the files of the F.B.I.

/s/ J. W. McC  
JOHN W. McCORMICK  
Agent, C.I.C.

(initials P)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New Haven, Connecticut  
23 April 1943  
Case No. I-b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Inspection of O.N.I., and F.B.I. records.

On 23 April 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the O.N.I., Bridgeport, Conn., and the F.B.I., New Haven, Conn. relative to the personnel investigation of Subject.

The O.N.I. and F.B.I. had no records pertaining to Subject.

JAMES C. RICH,  
Agent, C.I.C.

(MEMO *2*)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
31 May 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re : Police record

The O.N.I., 150 Causeway St., F.B.I., 10 Post Office Sq., and the Massachusetts Board of Probation, Pemberton Sq., all of Boston, Mass., report no record on Subject as of 28 May 1943.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

(MEMO R)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MM/mjs  
Detroit, Michigan  
29 June 1943  
V7/N-10-687m

17317

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEESER, Pvt.  
ASN 84335466  
307th Tech. Sq. Bn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

To : Police check

On 16 June 1943 this Agent examined the records of the Federal Bureau Investigation, Office Naval Intelligence, Detroit Police Department and Michigan State Police Department, regarding Subject under the name of Peter Powers, in connection with the disaffection investigation of PETER SEESER, to determine the loyalty of Subject, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Fourth Service Command.

The files of the ONI, Detroit Police and Michigan State Police disclose no information concerning the Subject, under the following name: PETER BOWERS.

The files of the FBI contain the following information of Subject under the following name: PETER POWERS.

A complaint received by the FBI in April 1943 shows one Pete Powers whose address was care of Almanac Singers, 133 W. 46th St., New York City, N. Y. The record showed that Powers was a member of the Almanac Singers, an organization possibly supported by the Communist Party and frequently praised by the Daily Worker. The report showed that Powers travelled about the United States under the auspices of the office of Civilian Defense entertaining O.S.D. Workers.

/s/ J. W. McC  
JOHN W. McCORMICK  
Agent, S.I.C.

(mm: S)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS  
GENERAL MITCHELL FIELD, OUDAHY, WISCONSIN

May 1, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

17318

SUBJECT: Peter Seeger, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

1. On May 1, 1943, this officer interviewed 2nd Lt. Alan Swartz (0703455) A.C., in regards to investigation concerning PETER SEEGER, (34335466) Pvt., 307th Tech. Sch. Sq., Keesler Field, Mississippi, as requested by the Director, Intelligence Division, Headquarters, Fourth Service Command.

2. Lt. Swartz states that he has known subject for several years both socially and in business. Subject belonged to a musical group in New York City called the Almanac Singers; a group of professional singers specializing in folk songs and various types of singing entertainment. Subject is believed to have done quite a bit of research work for the Library of Congress in recording of folk songs. Lt. Swartz states that very often they sang lyric songs made up by themselves before labor union rallies and organizing meetings. Several songs were of an anti-war nature prior to Pearl Harbor.

3. Lt. Swartz further states that subject was estranged from his family who were active in the Pan-American union. His mother is a music teacher and composer.

4. Subject is believed to be engaged to a girl in New York of Japanese-American parentage. The father, \_\_\_\_\_ Ohta; the mother is white, American, maiden name Perry. They have two children, a boy, Omari, and a daughter, Toshi. Lt. Swartz knows the family very well with the exception of the father who is very oriental in appearance, actions and talk. He does not know whether the father is pro or anti-Japanese but states that the mother and children are definitely anti-Japanese and have done a great deal of work for the China Relief effort. Subject has discussed with Lt. Swartz the possibility of marriage with Toshi including the racial aspects concerned.

5. When war was declared and the alien round-up took place in New York, the family went into hiding for fear of being deported or confined as aliens. Because of this, subject felt that his Japanese friends were being unduly persecuted and so stated to Lt. Swartz.

6. Lt. Swartz does not know of any Communistic or Socialistic tendencies on the part of subject and believes subject to be 100% American though rather immature and inclined to be a little drastic in his talk.

(MEMO II)

/s/ Samuel H. Jackson  
SAMUEL H. JACKSON  
1st Lt., A.C.  
Intelligence Officer.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

AUG 2 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L R Forney*

L. R. FORNEY

Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

*alb*  
*1 ENCL C 0133*

RECORDED

*100-400845*  
F B I  
29 AUG 3 1943

*FILED*

59 AUG 1943 DocId: 59169341 Page 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Sterke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN F B I - 3 6 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CORVALLIS, OREGON  
7 JUNE 1943  
IX-O/R-17420M

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SENGER, ASN 34835466, Pvt.,  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq., Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Interview with Private Morton Dimondstein.

On 5 June 1943 this Agent interviewed Pvt. Morton Dimondstein, ASN 32626009, Eq. Btry. 387th F.A. Bn., APO 104, Camp Adair, Oregon, regarding Subject, PETER SENGER. This interview was made in pursuance to a request received by the Portland Branch, AC of S, G-2, WDC & FA from the AC of S, G-2, WDC & FA in a letter dated April 27, 1943.

Dimondstein advised this Agent that he had become acquainted with Subject about four years ago in New York City. Subject to the best of his knowledge was born in New York City and attended Harvard University for a short time. Subject was a musician by profession, played the banjo very well and collected and composed folk music. Dimondstein stated that Subject travelled around the country most of the time collecting folk music and entertaining with his music. Subject's parents are divorced, his mother lives someplace in Florida and his father works for the Library of Congress, Music Division in Washington, D. C. Dimondstein had met the father on several occasions but knew nothing about the rest of Subject's family.

Dimondstein explained that he became acquainted with Subject through the Youth Workshop of which they were both members. He explained that the Youth Workshop was an organization of about 100 members in New York who were interested in cultural work. He explained that the organization had space rented where they would hold meetings and organize entertainment groups, both musical and dramatic. The organization also produced posters and other types of displays. The Youth Workshop was affiliated with the American Youth Congress and their posters and displays were produced for distribution by the latter organization, and their entertainment groups were organized for the purpose of conducting tours under the auspices of the American Youth Congress. Dimondstein stated that he was an artist and that his part in the organization was the production of posters, but that Subject as a musician was instrumental in composing music and organizing entertainment groups for the Youth Workshop. Dimondstein explained that the Youth Workshop originally had its headquarters at 68 E. 8th Street in New York, but that they later moved to 44 W. 18th Street in the same city.

According to Dimondstein, the Youth Workshop as an affiliate of the American Youth Congress was in accord with the policies of that organization and was active in the dissemination of these policies. He explained that the American Youth Congress advocated government subsidized education and training of the Youth of the country, especially in the cultural fields.

MIS-D(57)W/HB

✓ B

NW 12819 DocId: 5916954 Page 48

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(2)

LK-O/R-17420n

The American Youth Congress was also opposed to war, according to Dimondstein, and Subject, as far as he knew, was fully in accord with the policy of the organization.

Dimondstein stated that he had recently received a letter from Subject in which Subject had expressed the opinion that he was not being shipped overseas because of his association with a Japanese girl. Dimondstein explained that he had met this girl once in Subject's home in New York and that he always knew her as "Togi" but that he believed her true name was Toshi Ohta. He explained that Toshi was a Japanese girl who was born in Berlin, and that he knew nothing about her except that she was in the dress business someplace in New York. Dimondstein stated that he understood that Subject was engaged to Toshi and intended to marry her sometime.

to

Dimondstein, when asked if he knew what organizations Subject belonged, stated that he was a member of the Youth Workshop, the Almanac Players (a musical organization), and possibly a member of the Communist party. He admitted that he was not certain of the latter but stated that Subject often attended communist meetings and in his opinion Subject was in sympathy with the communist cause. Dimondstein also stated that he himself had attended many communist meetings and had a number of friends who were communists, but that he had never become a member of the organization. Dimondstein in explaining the reasons for Subject's communistic leanings stated that it must be realized that he was only speaking from his own experience and what he knew of Subject, but that in his opinion Subject was only interested in the communistic party from the standpoint of securing their backing for a program of subsidization of the cultural professions such as artists and musicians. He explained that in his opinion this was the basis of most artists' interest in the communist party as under their program the artist had an opportunity to produce his works without worry of starving to death, as they were subsidized by the government for such work.

Dimondstein stated that there was no question in his mind but that Subject was entirely loyal and that he felt that he understood him well enough to know that he was practical enough to realize that this war, however distasteful it may be, must be fought and won before attention could be given to anything else. He explained that the American Youth Congress had dissolved upon the outbreak of war because its policies were inconsistent with the prosecution of the war and could not function under wartime conditions.

AGENT'S NOTES: Dimondstein when discussing himself as well as Subject appeared to be frank, and in the opinion of this Agent, was not attempting to withhold any information regarding Subject or Subject's activities. He was not hesitant to discuss his opinions, nor to admit his affiliations with the Communist party or the American Youth Congress, and in the opinion of this Agent the information obtained from him can be considered reliable.

JACK H. DUNN,  
Special Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 28, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Attempt to interview former teacher and acquaintance at Harvard University.

In attempting to find acquaintances of Subject, this Agent contacted the following people who remembered him slightly or insufficiently to supply any information about him:

Mr. William A. Heaman, Manager of The Harvard Union, where Subject was employed from February to June, 1937.

Miss M. Murray, Ass't. Manager of The Harvard Union.

Miss G. Baldwin and Mrs. J. Ryan, Harvard Student Employment Office, who supervised Subject's temporary employment.

Subject's roommates at Leverett House, not available at this time, in this city are:

Edward Steele, 1904 Meridien St., Nashville, Tenn.  
William F. Pennebaker, 1334 State St., New Orleans.  
George Nishikawa, 336 East 116 St., New York.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

MIS.DIST:WH-P

LEB/

A.H.P

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Boston, Mass.  
May 27, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Inspection of records, Harvard University

On May 28, 1943, this Agent visited the office of the Supervisor of Undergraduate Non-Athletic Activities, University Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., to ascertain if Subject was a member of The Harvard Student Union.

This Agent personally examined a list of members of the Harvard Student Union, dated November, 1937, on which appeared the Subject's name followed by the word 'Secretary'.

AGENT'S NOTE: Examination of 'The Harvard Progressive', published by the Progressive Committee of the Harvard Student Union and the official organ of the Student Union, shows that Subject was listed on its staff as Secretary.

The Harvard Student Union (not to be confused with the Harvard Union, which is officially a part of the University) represents an amalgamation of organizations which reflects the liberal sentiment of the college. It is a chapter of the American Student Union. It came into existence in 1935 by the fusion of a number of organizations, including the Peace Society, League for Industrial Democracy, and The National Student League.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hartford, Connecticut  
April 23, 1943  
I/b10-710; IV-B1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Education check -  
Avon Old Farm High School

On April 23, 1943 this Agent checked the records at Avon Old Farm High School, Avon, Connecticut and interviewed Dean Sears regarding Subject.

Sears informed this Agent that Subject attended the aforementioned school from 1932 to 1936, and that he remembered Subject well. Sears added that Subject was a nephew of Allan Seeger (American Poet of World War fame) and that Subject possessed unusual literary talents. Sears continued that while Subject attended the Avon School he was the founder and editor of a small school newspaper which gained popularity and is at present widely read by the alumni.

In describing Subject, Sears said that he was an introvertive, shy reticent type, physically weak and for these reasons was not popular with his fellow students. Sears was of the impression that Subject's parents were estranged and that Subject's home life and environment were not desirable. Sears, however, held great respect for Subject's mentality and stated that in his opinion Subject was completely honest and reliable. Subject is believed to have attended Harvard University after leaving Avon Old Farm High School.

In further discussing Subject's background, Sears stated that Subject called on him about three years after leaving the Avon School. At that time, Sears said that Subject appeared to have assumed a "Bohemian" attitude in dress and appearance. From this visit, Sears concluded that Subject had developed a somewhat radical outlook on life.

Sears did not feel that Subject was in any way dangerous, but he did suspect that Subject had aligned himself with the so-called radical element of Harvard University.

*Matthys M. Laubscher*

MATTHYS M. LAUBSCHER  
Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hartford, Connecticut  
June 2, 1943  
I/b10-710; IV-B1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Attempted interview with former teachers of  
Spring Hill Grammar School, Litchfield, Conn.

On April 26, 1943 this Agent visited the Foreman School,  
Litchfield, Connecticut, formerly known as the Spring Hill Grammar  
School, regarding information of Subject's attendance.

The available records of the Foreman School did not cover  
the period of Subject's attendance, and no member of the present  
faculty were connected with the School during that period.

It was noted that the Spring Hill Grammar School was con-  
ducted by one Mrs. Mabel Spinney and Miss Dorothy Bull and was taken  
over some years ago by the present owners. Further investigation dis-  
closed that Miss Bull was deceased and Mrs. Spinney had changed her  
residence to New York and maintained a summer home in West Cornwall,  
Connecticut.

To this date, Mrs. Spinney had not returned to her Summer  
home, and inasmuch as Subject attended this School at a very young  
age, it is doubtful that the information obtained would be of any  
value.

*Matthys m laurscher*

MATTHYS M. LAURSCHER  
Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 28, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Inspection of records, Leverett House, Harvard University

On Thursday, May 27, 1943, this Agent visited the master's lodgings, Leverett House, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., to secure information on Subject's education and organizations.

Examination of the records there, revealed that Subject resided at Leverett House during part of the 1937-38 term. A notation on his application stated that Subject had lived at Harvard Union during the previous school year.

Subject's extra-curricular activities were listed as track, tennis, instrumental club, painting, and drawing.

AGENT'S NOTE: There is no one at Leverett House at the present time who knows Subject. The present master assumed the position only recently. The former master, now Professor Murdock, did not recall Subject. Messrs. Mikules, DeHood, and Gordan, listed as advisors to Subject, are no longer attached to the University. Latest address of these men are: T. Leonard Mikules, 419 Fourth St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; John D. Gordan, Jr., New York Public Library; DeHood, address unknown.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 27, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Inspection of records at Harvard University

On May 27, 1943, this Agent visited University Hall, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, Mass., to examine Subject's scholastic record.

Examination of these records revealed that Subject entered Harvard College in September, 1936, successfully completed the first year, returned for the sophomore year in the fall of 1937, but did not complete the second year, being 'allowed to withdraw' because of financial troubles April 12, 1938. Grades in the first year were fair. No credit was received for the work of the second year.

Major field of concentration was to be Sociology.

These records contain a note that Subject's mother and father are separated. Mother's address is given as:

Constance DeClyver (Edson) Seeger  
75 South Broadway  
Nyack, New York.

In March, 1938 Subject was placed on probation for 'cutting' classes and for unsatisfactory work. In April, he was allowed to withdraw. Reason: financial troubles.

A further notation shows that a record of Subject's marks was sent to City College of New York.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 28, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Interview with Miss Dorcas Bishop, Supervisor of Subject's part-time work.

On May 28, 1943, this Agent, interviewed Miss Dorcas Bishop, Librarian, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, Mass., regarding Subject.

Bishop stated that Subject was employed on a part time basis for about six months from September, 1943 while he was a sophomore at Harvard College.

After stating that Subject's work was entirely satisfactory, Bishop stated that he was 'modern' in his political ideas. When asked to expand on this point, Bishop said that Subject seemed to have radical ideas, with a strong leaning toward Communism. She continued by saying that Subject was strong-willed and highly opinionated in his views. Subject's brother, John Seeger, who was also at this time a student employee at the same library, had expressed concern, Bishop said, over the fact that the so-called progressive school which Subject had attended had not done him any good. Bishop stated that in this statement and others similar to it, John seemed to show dissatisfaction with Subject's liberal, progressive political ideas.

Bishop concluded by saying that in March or April, 1938, she heard that Subject had withdrawn from the college and that he was living 'on his own' in Boston. She added that she knew nothing of Subject's extra-curricular activities or of his acquaintances.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New Haven, Connecticut.  
April 23, 1943.  
Case No. I-610-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.),  
ASN 34335466, 307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Inspection of O.N.I. and F.B.I. records.

On April 23, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the O.N.I., Bridgeport, Conn., and the F.B.I., New Haven, Conn. relative to the personnel investigation of Subject.

The O.N.I. and F.B.I. had no records pertaining to Subject.

JAMES C. RICH,  
Agent, C.I.C.

(MEMO)  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Boston, Mass.  
May 31, 1943  
SPKAI/Open File b10-710m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: SEEGER, Peter (Pvt.)  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Miss.

RE: Police record

The O.N.I., 150 Causeway St., F.B.I., 10 Post Office Sq., and the Massachusetts Board of Probation, Pemberton Sq., all of Boston, Mass., report no record on Subject as of May 28, 1943.

/s/ William B. Hickey  
WILLIAM B. HICKEY  
SPECIAL AGENT, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

JUL 2 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L.R. Forney*

L. R. FORNEY  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

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100-22244  
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31 JUL 2 1943  
*Forney*

UNRECORDED-COPY FILED IN 100-22244

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Curley	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Acers	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Clarke	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Please	.....
Miss Candy	.....
Files	.....

50 JUL 1943  
1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~Confidential~~

Place Washington, D. C.  
Date May 1, 1943.  
Case No. IV-b1526m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466, 307th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Investigation in the Military District of Washington, pursuant to CI-R1 Report dated March 25, 1943, from the Director of Intelligence, Fourth Service Command, requesting investigation of undeveloped leads concerning PETER SEEGER, who wrote a letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, citizens or not, after the War, and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship.

LEADS:

(1)

Charles Seeger, 10001 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, Chief of the Music Section, Pan American Union, and father of Subject, was interviewed under pretext in his office at the Pan American Building Annex, Washington, D.C., relative to the Subject. (April 30, 1943)

Mr. Seeger stated Subject was born in New York City, N.Y. in May of 1919, and was born to Mr. Seeger's first wife, Constance de Clyver Edson Seeger, from whom he is now divorced. Constance Seeger is a violinist and is living in Miami, Florida, where she is teaching music.

II SC

IV SC

Informant stated Subject started to school at the age of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years, attending a private school, which he believes was located at New Cannon, Connecticut. Subject later attended Spring Hill School, Litchfield, Connecticut. Subject attended a high school at Avon School, Avon, Connecticut. Subject also attended Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he matriculated in an Arts and Sciences course. Subject left Harvard about Easter of 1938, when Mr. Seeger and his wife Constance, were divorced.

I SC

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I SC

I SC

Mr. Seeger informed this Agent that Subject had "bummed around" over the country for the past two or three years; that Subject has "hitch-hiked" all over the southwestern part of the United States; that Subject was a banjo player and singer, and managed to earn his keep while "bumming" with his banjo and voice; that Subject was very much interested in the common people and likes to associate with them; that Subject was also a free

(Signed)

(MEMO 1) (Name typed)

ENCLOSURE 100-204845-5 (664179)

NW 12849 Doc Id: 59169341 Page 6 of 6 Bridge Special Agent, CIC  
imd

~~Confidential~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PETER SEEGER;  
(1, page 2)

IV-b1526m.

LEADS:

lance artist and managed to earn some money by painting.

Informant is of the opinion Subject was never very much interested in money, and didn't seem to care whether or not he had any, so long as he had a place to stay and something to eat.

Informant revealed Subject was a close friend and associate of "Leadbetter", also known as "Leadbelly", a negro murderer who escaped from prison a few years ago. Subject and "Leadbetter" often travelled and sang together.

Subject was a singer and banjo player with the Almanac singers, and was very active in Detroit, Michigan, assisting the CIO in a membership drive. Subject sang and played the banjo during CIO meetings, according to Mr. Seeger. VI SC

Mr. Seeger stated he has received letters from Subject indicating the Subject was dissatisfied with his present position in the Army; that Subject wants to get an assignment to active duty where he can get into combat. It is Subject's father's opinion that Subject is being held back by the Army because of Subject's radical tendencies and associates; that Subject's father does not believe Subject is radical, but admits Subject has a liberal point of view.

Subject's father described Subject as being 24 years of age; slightly over six feet tall; weight, about 150 lbs.; thin, but wiry build; brown hair; blue eyes; fair complexion.

Mr. Seeger informed this Agent, Dave Taylor of Columbia Broadcasting System, 485 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. and Frank Luther of Decca Records Corporation, New York, N.Y. would be able to furnish considerable information relative to Subject, as Subject worked for them. II SC II SC

Informant stated Subject has had an album of records recorded under the title of "Mr. President", and also an album of sea songs was recorded by Subject for Decca Corporation. II SC

Subject's father informed this Agent that he is an advisor to the Joint Army and Navy Committee on Music, and has had a letter written to the proper authority requesting the Subject be given an assignment where he could use his musical training. Subject, however, refused to accept this assignment, claiming that he wanted to become a good soldier first, then have his music as a secondary interest.

In conclusion, Subject's father admitted Subject had associated with radicals and questionable characters, however, Subject's father is of the opinion Subject is not a radical himself, but likes freedom of movement, and was not very choosy about his friends.

Washington, D.C.; W.L. McFatridge, Special Agent, CIC.  
NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 61

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PETER SEEGER; IV-b1526.

(2)

On April 26, 1943, Agent G.G. Oakes inspected the files of the Associated Retail Credit Men of Washington, D.C., and the General American Credits, Incorporated, Washington, D.C., and no information relative to Subject was disclosed.

LEADS:

(3)

On April 28, 1943, Agent Robert Daegar inspected the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., and also the Special Subversive files of the Public Relations Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., and no information relative to Subject was disclosed.

(4)

On April 30, 1943, this Agent was informed by Special Agent P.M. Walter, that the Dies Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., has the following information relative to Subject in their files:

September 5, 1940 - Subject was a delegate to the American Peace Mobilization convention held at Chicago, Illinois.

September 6, 1940 - Subject was a singer at the Massachusetts Meeting of the American Peace Mobilization, held at Turner's Arena, Washington, D.C.

(5)

Upon the request of the Officer in Charge, WFO, CIC, this Agent conducted a check of the appropriate agencies to ascertain the reliability of Subject's father, Charles Seeger, Jr. On May 14, 1943, this Agent was advised by Special Agent John B. Mackey, that the State Department, Washington, D.C., has the following information relative to Subject's father, Charles Seeger:

"CHARLES LOUIS SEEGER, Jr., made application for passport in New York City, N.Y., on June 3, 1931, indicating that he intended to travel to France, England, and Germany to attend conferences. He said he would leave the Port of New York on S.S. Bremen on June 14, 1931, and would return to the United States within two years.

Washington, D.C.: W.L. McFetridge, Special Agent, CIC.

(Memos 2,3,4,5)

NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 62

elm

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~LEADS:~~

(5, page 2)

"Application further reflected that SEAGER was born on December 14, 1886, at Mexico City, Mexico. Affidavit by Charles L. Seeger, Subject's father, certified that Charles Seeger was born in Mexico on December 14, 1886; was registered at the Consulate General of the United States, in Mexico City, as an American citizen by his American parents, Charles Louis Seeger, born in Springfield, Massachusetts, and Elsie Adams Seeger. He was brought to the United States by his parents in May, 1887, taking up permanent residence in this Country. Since that time Subject has resided outside the United States in Mexico, from 1900 to 1902, and in Europe from 1903 to 1911.

"Seeger gave his occupation as Musicologist. His permanent address is listed as Patterson, New York, and his mailing address is listed as 27 West 44th Street, New York City, New York.

"Subject's application for passport was approved and on June 9, 1931, he was issued passport #401531, by the State Department. There is, however, no data on actual foreign travel undertaken by Subject on this passport."

(6)

Upon the request of the Officer in Charge, FBI, GIC, this Agent made a check in the neighborhood of 10001 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, for the purpose of determining the reputation of Charles Louis Seeger, Jr., father of Subject in this neighborhood.

On May 20, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. Ray A. Turner, 10007 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, housewife, relative to the reputation of Subject's father in this neighborhood.

Mrs. Turner advised this Agent that she has known Charles Seeger for a period approximating two years; that during this time she has never had a close acquaintance with Mr. Seeger; that Mr. Seeger is away from his home throughout the entire day, and she seldom sees him in the evening; that so far as she knows the Seeger family are loyal American citizens and she has no reason to suspect them of sympathy with the Axis' ideologies; that neither Mr. Seeger nor his wife have ever expressed any radical viewpoints, and have never given her cause to suspect that either Mr. or Mrs. Seeger were engaging in Communistic Activities. Mrs. Turner qualified this statement by saying that her observations of Mr. and Mrs. Seeger were based upon her limited knowledge of them in the neighborhood.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PETER SEEGER, IV-61526

(6, page 2)

~~LEADS:~~

Mrs. Turner advised this Agent that Mrs. Seeger was engaged in writing music books; that in addition to this writing, most of Mrs. Seeger's time was taken up with her three children. "There is one boy about ten years of age, and two girls, one an infant, and the other 4-6 years of age. The young Seeger boy plays with Mrs. Turner's boy and is also a member of the same Cub Scout Troop.

Informant stated that she did not know of any clubs, lodges, or associations in which either Mr. or Mrs. Seeger were members. The Seegers, ~~family~~ are not known to attend any churches, and their religious denomination is unknown to the informant. According to Mrs. Turner, the Seegers, ~~family~~ are very quiet, do not get into trouble, or arguments with the neighbors, and have never created any disturbances in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Turner advised this Agent, she has observed the older son of Mr. Seeger's, whose name she believed to be PETER SEEGER. At the time Mrs. Turner observed PETER SEEGER, he was wearing an Army uniform. Mrs. Turner stated that she did not have an opportunity to talk with PETER SEEGER, however, her small son was playing with the younger son of Mr. Seeger, and this boy told her son that the soldier in uniform was PETER SEEGER. Mrs. Turner stated that she is of the opinion that PETER SEEGER is the son of Mr. Seeger by his first marriage. Mrs. Turner is of the opinion that this was the first occasion that she has ever observed PETER SEEGER in this neighborhood, and she knows nothing at all concerning PETER SEEGER.

In conclusion, Mrs. Turner stated that in her opinion the Seeger family were good American citizens, and she has no reason to question their loyalty to the United States.

(7)

Upon the request of the Officer in Charge, WFO, CIC, this Agent made a check in the neighborhood of 10001 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, the residence of Subject's father, for the purpose of determining the reputation of Subject's father in his neighborhood.

On May 20, 1943, this Agent interviewed at her residence, Mrs. Ralph E. Dohirst, 9909 Dallas Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, relative to Subject's father, Charles Louis Seeger, Jr.

Mrs. Dohirst stated that she was not well acquainted with Charles Seeger or his wife, but has known them ever since they moved to their present home three or four years ago. It was Mrs. Dohirst's opinion

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PETER SEEGER; IV-b1526a

LEADS:

(7. page 2)

that the Seeger family enjoy an excellent reputation in this neighborhood. Mrs. Dewhirst described the Seeger family as being very quiet, and refined. Mrs. Seeger is a musician of some note, and writes her own books on musical subjects. It was the informant's opinion that Mr. Seeger is employed as supervisor of some music project. The informant stated there were three children in the Seeger family. One of the children is a boy, approximately ten years of age and there are also two younger girls.

Based upon her limited knowledge of Seeger family, Mrs. Dewhirst stated that she has never had any reason to question either Mr. or Mrs. Seeger's loyalty to the United States; that there are no indications Mr. or Mrs. Seeger are in sympathy with Axis ideology; that she has never had any reason to suspect either Mr. or Mrs. Seeger of Communistic activity.

Mrs. Dewhirst informed this Agent that she has never seen or heard anyone in the neighborhood mention Mr. Seeger's older son, PETER SEEGER, that she did not know Mr. Seeger had a son in the Army.

The informant stated she was not aware of Mr. or Mrs. Seeger's ever having had any trouble with the neighbors, or having caused a disturbance.

In conclusion, Mrs. Dewhirst informed this Agent Mr. and Mrs. Seeger were planning to move in the near future because the house which they now rent is going to be sold by the Rental Agents.

(6)

Upon the request of the Officer in Charge, WSO, CIO, this Agent conducted a check of the appropriate agencies to ascertain the reliability of Subject's father, Charles Seeger, Jr. On May 15, 1943, this Agent was informed by Agent G.G. Oakes, that a check of the files of Associated Retail Credit Men of Washington, D.C., and the General American Credits, Incorporated, Washington, D.C., revealed the following information relative to Charles Louis Seeger, Jr.:

A report dated June 5, 1941, and originating at Washington, D.C., contained the following information:

"Subject is about 41 years of age, white, married, and his wife, Ruth G., and three children are dependent upon him for support. He has resided at 10001 Dallas Avenue, Silver Springs, Maryland, since September 17,

PETER SEEGER, IV-81526

(8, page 2)

~~HEADS:~~

1938, renting a house for an unknown amount of rent. He formerly resided at P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.; 3607 Pershing Drive, Lyon Park, Virginia; and also 111 East 57th Street, New York City, N.Y.

1150

"He is employed by OPA, located in Office of Pan American Union, as a Director of Music, having been appointed February 10, 1941, and receives a salary of \$4,600 per annum. Position is indefinite. Formerly employed by WPA, Music Project, as Assistant to the Director, appointed June 27, 1935, and received a salary of \$3,800 per annum. This was an indefinite appointment. Previously employed by FSA, prior to the Resettlement Administration. His wife is unemployed."

A report dated December 17, 1935, and originating at New York City, New York, contained the following information:

"Charles Seeger, Jr., is in his middle 30's; married; has no known dependents.

"A previous address, 111 East 57th Street, New York City, New York is a four story, brown stone, 'walkup' house of fair description, in a medium class neighborhood. They had been tenants here for nearly three years, and rental authorities advised they left here about two months ago, in good standing, and are understood to have moved out of the city. Seeger holds a B.A. degree in music. He has been associated with the New School for Social Research, at 66 West 12th Street, New York City, N.Y. where it is understood he gave lectures, and courses on music. It was stated that he was with them last spring. They appear to be people of moderate means, and living within their means. No active accounts."

1150

1150

(9)

On May 17, 1943, this Agent was advised by Agent William Gray, that the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., and also the Special Subversive files of the Public Relations Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C. had been checked and no information relative to Charles Louis Seeger, Jr., was disclosed. C.L. Seeger, Jr., is the father of Subject.

Washington, D.C.: W. L. McPatridge, Special Agent, GIG.

(Memorandum 8, 9)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAPER NUMBER: IV-51526a

(10)

Upon the request of the Officer in Charge, WFO, CIO, this Agent conducted a check of the appropriate agencies to ascertain the reliability of Subject's father, Charles Seeger, Jr. On May 18, 1943, this Agent was advised by Miss Clark, Research and Liaison Section, IB, CIO, that a search of the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation had failed to reveal any information relative to Charles Louis Seeger, Jr., father of Subject.

LEADS:

(11)

On May 20, 1943, this Agent was informed by Special Agent F.E. Walter, that the Dies Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., had no record of Charles Louis Seeger, Jr., ever having signed a Communistic Party petition.

There is a record in the Dies Committee of Charles Louis Seeger, Jr., being a member of a Communist and Socialist infiltrated organization known as "Musicians Section, American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom". The indication of Charles Louis Seeger's membership in this organization was taken from the New York Herald Tribune, issue of September 1, 1940.

Closed this office, May 20, 1943.

Washington, D.C.: V.L. McFetridge, Special Agent, CIO.

(Memos 10, 11)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

War Department  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington.

JUN 25 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

L.R. Forney

L. R. FORNEY,  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

ENCL B  
1  
Ch P 84

RECORDED

EX-36

100-200845  
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NW548 JUN 22 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Corcoran.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kremer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn-Trotter.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Candy.....
Files.....

WAR DEPARTMENT  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~File No. II 111701-2 IV 11526n  
Date MARCH 9 1943Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34395466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, MississippiInvestigation requested by FBI/Jep  
Office of origin DIO, 4th S. C.  
Report made at HQ, 2nd S. C., Gov. Isl., No. Y.  
Report made by Harwood E. Ryan, Agent, CIC  
Period covered 5/1/43 - 5/7/43  
Character of investigation Disaffection  
Status of Case RUC

## REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

Pvt. PETER SINGER, then undergoing training at the Airplane Mechanics School, Keesler Field, Mississippi, wrote a letter to the California American Legion, criticizing their resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese after the war and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship.

By First Indorsement on a letter dated April 3, 1943, the Director of Intelligence, 4th S. C., requested the Director of Intelligence, 2nd Service Command, to make complete investigation of Undeveloped Leads as indicated in CI-R1, IV 1526n, dated March 25, 1943, which had been previously forwarded.

## ADVERSE INFORMATION:

1. SINGER'S associates include many known Communists. (MEMOS A,C,G,H)
2. SINGER'S fiancee is a member of two Communistic groups. Her father is Japanese, and her brother is reported to have circulated petitions on behalf of Communist Earl Browder. (MEMOS A,E,F,G)
3. SINGER was one of the principals of the Almanac Players who spew Communist and anti-Fascist propaganda through songs and recordings. (MEMOS A,H,I)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS: None

## REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS:

This Agent believes the Subject to be ardently anti-Fascist and pro-Communist, as were most of his associates in this area. (MEMOS A,C,H,I). His fiance is half Japanese and is a member of the Communist infiltrated Japanese-American Committee for Democracy and is employed by Survey Associates, Inc., who publish the magazine SURVEY GRAPHIC which has increasingly followed the Communist Party line. His brother has circulated pro-Earl Browder petitions. (MEMOS E,F,G). Former landlords have spoken of their relief at the Subject's departure from their premises. In one place unpaid bills were left. (MEMOS B,G)

It is the opinion of this Agent that the Subject's Communistic sympathies, his unsatisfactory relations with his landlords, and his numerous Communistic and otherwise undesirable friends, make him unfit for a position of trust or responsibility.

CARDED

FORWARDED *MIS-111701-2*

(Continued)

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

For the Director of Intelligence

GEO. W. HINMAN, JR.  
Colonel, G. S. C.  
Executive OfficerWAR DEPARTMENT DocId: 59169341 Page 69  
O. C. S., Form No. 19~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-30044-1

100-200845-4

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~jep  
II b11701m  
IV b1526m

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

This Agent recommends that this case be referred to the War Department in accord with Par. 10 of letter dated March 19, 1943, from the Adjutant General's Office, AG 014.311 (3-16-43) OB-S-B-1.

This Agent further recommends that this case be RUCB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place, Governors Island, N. Y. ....

Date, June 5, 1943 .....

Case No. II - b11701m

IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with George E. Jonas, acquaintance

On May 7, 1943, this Agent interviewed George E. Jonas, 465 Park Avenue, New York, owner of Camp Rising Sun, Walden, New York, and an acquaintance for seven years of the Subject.

Jonas said that he had established Camp Rising Sun 14 years ago for the purpose of giving unusually talented boys an opportunity to develop their talents and qualities of leadership. The boys were selected each year from candidates from about 50 outstanding schools. Schools having courses in particular fields were considered especially. The boys who were chosen paid what they could, and this usually amounted to \$4 or \$5 a week. They enjoyed all the benefits and activities of a boys' summer camp, plus training in self-government, publication of camp papers, construction of works of art and so forth. The Subject had been suggested to Jonas by the Institute of Musical Art, which is part of the Juilliard Music School where Jonas believes that the Subject's mother had been a music teacher. The Subject's mother impressed Jonas as a nice, but unsympathetic person, and she has been separated from her husband for some time. The husband was a musicologist, which means that he studied the history of music, collected selected manuscripts, and made very little money. In the opinion of Jonas, the Subject's father was a very queer man especially in that he did not consider the Subject to be any of his responsibility. Jonas had known times when the Subject was supposedly living with his family, when he had to sleep on a park bench because the house was full of guests. The father has been married to another woman for some time and now lives in Washington, D. C.

Jonas said the Subject was talented in many things and had unusual ability in painting, writing, music, and cooking. The Subject had attended Camp Rising Sun for the month of July, 1936. At the end of this period, the Subject's father had taken him out of the camp and sent him to do some berry picking for a friend of the father. This inconsiderate gesture had been considered outrageous by Jonas.

After leaving the very select Avon School, the Subject attended Harvard for somewhat less than 2 years, and Jonas believes he left because he showed more interest in student union activities than in his studies. Jonas said the Subject had always leaned toward Communistic thinking, and he believes that this was furthered by the Subject's attendance at a very wealthy school while his parents were almost without money.

(MEMO) (Continued)

Signed.....

Typed .....

Sp. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Jep  
II b1170lm  
IV b1526n

Jonas pointed out that he always maintained contact with his boys and the Subject had once invited him to attend the music festival in Greenwich Village, New York. Upon attending, Jonas had found there a small gathering and the entertainment consisted of Italian revolutionary songs, Russian songs, and Communistic labor union songs. In view of this background Jonas had later invited the Subject out to dinner and offered the Subject an opportunity to explain his communistic views. The Subject declined.

Jonas said that the Subject, about a year ago, had written that he would like to get in touch with Reizo Nishikawa, who had been a close friend of the Subject at Camp Rising Sun. Jonas described Nishikawa as a half Japanese who had always had very radical left-wing political beliefs.

Jonas mentioned that the Subject had two older brothers, at least one of whom had attended the Harvard University, and Jonas believes that because of this fact, and with the aid of a liberal scholarship, the Subject also was admitted to Harvard.

Jonas emphasized that the Subject had been as fine a boy as any of the 300 who had attended the Camp, but he said that the Subject had been idealistic, and he could easily see how the Subject might get into trouble especially if he were exposed to other liberals having Communistic beliefs.

AGENT'S NOTE:

It is the opinion of this Agent that Jonas is an unusually excellent Informant. His operation of Camp Rising Sun is a philanthropic gesture, and he exhibited a great deal of feeling for what he called "his boys." Jonas is a well educated and much travelled man who appeared to give a great deal of thought to his opinions.

HARWOOD E. RYAN,  
Agent, CIC

MEMO A

Page 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

mjf  
Place...Governors Island, New York.  
Date..May 5, 1943.....  
Case No. II - b11701m; IV-b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with W. W. Guthrie, fellow-employee and friend.

On May 1, 1943, this Agent interviewed W. W. Guthrie, 74 Charles Street, New York, N. Y., friend of Subject and formerly a fellow-employee.

Guthrie said that he had first met Subject in the summer of 1941 and he knew that Subject had just left Harvard, but he did not know the reason. Both, Subject and Guthrie, had joined the Almanac Singers, which was a group of musicians who wrote and sang hillbilly songs and ballads for audiences wherever they could be found. Most of the group's engagements were in Union halls and at Union outings. Guthrie would not state how the Almanacs came into being and he indicated that he did not know the whereabouts of any of the former members. As far as Guthrie knows, the remaining Almanac Players are now in Detroit, Michigan.

According to Guthrie, the Subject was the best musician in the group and was the one who wrote most of the original lyrics for their ballads. Nothing was known of the Subject's parents beyond the fact that the father lived in Washington, D. C., and had been married again, and the mother lived in Florida. All of the members of the family were accomplished musicians and the Subject had learned all he had about music from association with his parents and brothers. Guthrie did not know anything about these brothers, although he thought there was one named John and one named Charles and both were older than the Subject.

Since leaving Harvard, the Subject had had no permanent address, as his employment with the Almanacs had carried him through forty-five states in the United States and their quarters were always chosen from opportunities at hand. This meant that the group had slept on freight trains, under bridges, in churches, and so forth. Guthrie said the Subject had been fond of music and folk dancing and that he liked sports, swimming in particular. Guthrie did not know of any organizations to which the Subject had belonged.

Guthrie said that the Subject had been greatly interested in American folklore and had always been interested in people and what they were doing. The Subject had a great deal of energy and was brilliant, but he was hard to understand. Guthrie attributed this to the fact that the Subject always wanted to see things done in a more efficient and better way than they were being done.

(MEMO B)

Signed.....

Typed .....

(CIVSP Agent, CIC)  
AA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

if  
II-b11701m; IV-b1526m

In addition, the Subject loved good organization and was always active in trying to make group endeavors work more smoothly. Guthrie would not name any ~~part~~ of the groups, but said he referred to many kinds of outings or meetings in which people assembled at large gatherings.

The Subject was progressive in his outlook and had liberal views, maintaining that men had the right to organize and bargain collectively. In addition, the Subject was very much in favor of labor unions and most of the Almanacs' bookings were by such unions. According to Guthrie, the Subject's present politics are National Unity. Guthrie emphasized that the Subject is not an overthower, but he is out to win the war. What the Subject wants personally, is to do Hitler the most damage possible. Guthrie said he had just received a letter stating that the Subject was extremely anxious to be sent on active service and that he could not understand why he was being held inactive in an unassigned group.

Referring to Toshi Ohta, Guthrie said that the girl was the Subject's fiancee and that she had met the Subject shortly before his entrance into the Army of the United States. Guthrie professed to know little about Toshi Ohta, but said she had once been an artist's model and that she ardently hoped for the defeat of the Japanese because of their military aggression. Her father had been ousted from Japan because of his political activities there.

In conclusion, Guthrie stated that he thought the Subject could be trusted in a position of responsibility and that because of the Subject's brilliant mind, it would be a wise thing to utilize the Subject's talents.

AGENT'S NOTE:

This Agent observed hanging on Guthrie's wall, a large guitar on which there appeared the inscription, "This machine kills Fascists." It is this Agent's opinion that this bears out the belief that the Almanac Players were active singing Communist songs and spreading propaganda.

It is this Agent's opinion that Guthrie was truthful as far as he went, but that he knew a great deal more about the Subject's politics and activities than he admitted. Subsequent investigation indicated that he had lived with the Subject for some time and probably knew him very well. (MEMO c)

HARWOOD E. RYAN  
Agent, CIC

(MEMO B)

Page-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

mjf  
Place.....Governors Island, New York  
Date.....May 5, 1943  
Case No. II— b11701m; IV-b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Mrs. Mangione, residence check.

On May 3, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. Mangione, 23 Downing Street, New York, N. Y., former landlady of the Subject for about two months.

Mrs. Mangione said that the Subject had leased an apartment in the basement about the middle of May, 1942, ostensibly for the use of the one person. However, the next day, a fellow named Guthrie appeared and although the Subject said he was only visiting, Guthrie established himself permanently with the Subject. A few days later, a girl turned up who also lived with the other two. When Mrs. Mangione remonstrated, she had been told that the new arrival was a sister of one of the boys; however, she believes that the girl's name was Robinson. Mrs. Mangione remembered the girl of slightly Japanese appearance who used to visit the boys. In addition to the persons enumerated above, there were other young men who frequently called and according to Mrs. Mangione, the group was much too noisy most of the time. She characterized them as a disreputable crowd, none of the members of which ever looked neat or clean-cut. Most of them wore lumber jackets and blue denim trousers and frequently appeared carrying guitars and other musical instruments. In July, 1942, the occupants departed and the Subject had said he was about to enter the Army. They had left owing Mrs. Mangione one-half month's rent and the gas company had later appeared trying to collect an unpaid bill for \$4.00. Mrs. Mangione stated that although she did not know the occupants personally, she was glad that they had left.

Mrs. Mangione had later received a post card from the Subject which was postmarked Florida.

AGENT'S NOTE:

It is this Agent's opinion that the Robinson girl was an entertainer who appeared with the Almanacs and was not a sister of either the Subject or Guthrie. (MEMO D)

(MEMO C)

Signed.....

Typed.....HARWOOD E. RYAN.....  
Sp. Agent, CIC

X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Place... Governors Island, New York  
Date... May 5, 1943.....  
Case No. II - b11701m; IV-b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Max Gordon, acquaintance.

On May 3, 1943, this Agent interviewed Max Gordon, 178 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. Gordon is the owner of a nightclub known as the Village Vanguard.

Gordon said that the Almanacs had appeared in his club on two occasions. They had presented ballads and dances. Gordon considered the Almanac material too leftist for the clientele of the nightclub and for that reason, had not engaged them more often. He stated that the Almanacs had made recordings although he did not know the nature of them (MEMO 1). The manager of the Almanacs had been a fellow named Mel (Milt) Lampell. The Subject and a fellow named Guthrie had been the other members of the group who stood out in Gordon's mind. A girl named Bessie Lomax had occasionally appeared as an entertainer, but she has since been married and Gordon does not know where she is. A girl named Toshi Ohta had usually accompanied the group, but had not been an entertainer. Gordon had not heard of a girl named Helen Robinson, but thought that she might have been an accordionist that had appeared with the Almanacs.

In the organization, SEEGER had written lyrics for the songs, produced by the group and had also been a guitar player. Gordon considered him to be the most interesting person of the aggregation and thought it was too bad that the Subject was so enthusiastic about his leftist ideas. Gordon pointed out that Guthrie had a book published called "Bound for Glory" which is autobiographical and which is already near the top of the best seller list. In the book, Guthrie related, that his mother had become insane and his sister had met a violent death. Gordon attributed Guthrie's bitter and cynical outlook on life to the hard life he had lead in his youth. Guthrie had been a close friend of the Subject.

Gordon indicated that there had been other members of the band who constituted a rotating membership and many of them had appeared with the group for only one or two engagements. Gordon while admitting that the material of the group was leftist and inflammatory in nature, stated that the boys were nice fellows and he considered them harmless. For this reason, he could see no reason why the Subject should not be trusted with a position of responsibility.

(MEMO D)

Signed.....

Typed HARWOOD E. RYAN.....  
Sp. Agent, CIC  
*xx*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

mjf

Place: Governors Island, New York.

Date: May 5, 1943.....

Case No. II—b11701m; IV-b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Bernard Schultz, acquaintance.

On May 3, 1943, this Agent interviewed Bernard Schultz, 430 Sixth Avenue, New York, N. Y., owner of the building where the Almanacs formerly had their headquarters.

Schultz said about May, 1942, a girl named Bessie Lomax had appeared and had signed the lease for one year, for a five-room apartment in the rear of the quarters at the above address. Although it was understood that two persons were to occupy the quarters, Schultz said that most of the time there were five or six men occupying the place and also an indeterminate number of women.

Schultz said that the crowd had been a noisy and troublesome crowd and he considered the members individually to be a disreputable, no account type of individual. He believed that there had been several Okahemians in the group.

The crowd had often been heard playing and singing musical selections and he understood that they were known as the Almanac Players who secured their bookings through the International Workers Order. Schultz remembered the Subject whom he considered to be the leader of the group, but Schultz thought him to be just as erratic as the other members and thought that he stood out only because he had had more education. It was the Subject who wrote the lyrics or the ballads which the Almanac Players presented.

Although the group paid its rent while it was in residence, the members had departed about December, 1942, and Schultz stated that he was glad to see them go in spite of the fact that they had broken their lease.

AGENT'S NOTE:

The quarters described above consisted of two rooms designed as residential quarters in the rear of a dilapidated and virtually deserted office building. This Agent interviewed the other occupant, Benjamin Zenach, who said he knew nothing of the Almanacs, but that this Agent could secure more information by calling the Education Department of the International Workers Order.

(MEMO E)

Signed.....

Typed .....

( CSP-AgenEJC )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

f-bill701m; IV-b1526m

AGENT'S NOTE: (Continued)

By a phone call to the International Workers Order, this Agent determined that the remaining members of the Almanac Players were now in Detroit, Michigan. Nothing else could be determined. The telephone call was made under pretext and the Subject was not mentioned.

HAROLD E. RYAN  
Agent, CIC

(MEMO E)

Page-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Governors Island, N. Y.

Place..... Date..... June 4, 1943

Case No. II b11701n  
IV b1526n

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SIEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Review of G-2 Files: Japanese-American Committee for Democracy

On May 4, 1943, this Agent reviewed the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York City, at G-2, Hq. 2nd Service Command, Governors Island, New York, regarding the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy. The following information is an extract from reports dated as indicated as follows:

Report dated April 15, 1943:

The J.A.C.D. was organized in the fall of 1940 and became relatively more active after December 7, 1941. Membership is offered to all loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry, and Japanese residents loyal to the United States. Its published aim is to promote better Japanese-American understanding and to promote the economic, social, and cultural status of the Japanese community.

The JACD was organized by former members of the Tozai Club (now defunct) who were irked at the control exerted by the Japanese Consul and the attempt of the Tozai officers to bind the nisei to ancient Japanese ideology. The JACD, after December 7, 1941, made a great display of patriotism with blood donor drives and telegrams to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secretary of War, etc., expressing loyalty to the United States.

A confidential informant, however, stated that Yoshitaka Takagi, executive secretary, was a Communist and the JACD was a front. The following names conned from letterheads and literature of the organization represent officers and advisors who are prominent in numerous alleged Communist front organizations:

Roger Baldwin, director, American Civil Liberties Union, member 9 organizations  
Pearl Buck, author, member 2 organizations  
Abner Green, educational director, member 2 organizations  
Yasuo Kuniyoshi, instructor, member 3 organizations  
Rev. Edward L. Parsons, cleric, member 6 organizations  
Bishop Francis J. McConnell, cleric, member 12 organizations  
Katherine Terrill, member 14 organizations  
Prof. Franz Boas, professor, member 22 organizations  
Dr. Albert Einstein, mathematician, member 5 organizations

(MEMO F) (Continued) Signed.....

Typed..... Sp. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep  
II b1170lm  
IV b1526m

The Federal Bureau of Investigation secured a file from the JACD office in which there appeared a page on Council for Democracy letterhead. There appeared in longhand this anonymous statement, "All three are known radicals and Communists. Every action of Communist movement or any activities going on, those 3 appear. Each of them is active--American People's Mobilization for Victory over Fascism." The names of Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Alden Whitman, and Katherine Terrill follow.

Report dated May 5, 1942:

Two agents of the F.B.I. attended a mass meeting sponsored by the JACD at the Hotel Diplomat, New York City, on April 15, 1942. They report on the speakers as follows:

Dr. A. Clayton Powell, negro, spoke mainly against Jim Crowism and racial discrimination; urged an Abraham Lincoln Brigade; and deplored the allotting of menial tasks to negroes in the U. S. Army.

Dr. Kurt Rosenfeld, German refugee, urged the Japanese not to trust Hitler as Hitler was thinking in terms of world domination and considered the Japs as "brown monkeys." Rosenfeld insisted on racial equality.

Pearl Buck, author, spoke mostly of cultural preservation and said that Chinese and Japanese should not be barred from the United States.

Lin Liang Ho, Chinese, said he had fought against the Japanese in the Chinese Army and he knew there was an undercurrent of opposition to Japanese militarism existing in the Japanese Army. He cited instances of poor treatment of Chinese seamen by whites. He finished by singing a song whose dominant phrase was "We are brothers, we are brothers."

Yasuo Kanishi (phonetic), Japanese artist, gave a nonotonous speech telling how he had been born in Japan, but that he had no desire to return. He was weakly applauded.

At this point a group of five people, playing guitars, rendered a song, one of which symbolized confusion during an air raid alert; another was "Dancing Around Hitler's Grave;" the third was "Assembly Line Civil."

Roger Baldwin, of the Civil Liberties Union, spoke against the segregation of Japanese in America and enumerated their hardships.

Part Shilling spoke as a former member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

(Continued)

MEMO F

Page 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep  
II b11701m  
IV b1526m

At the close of the meeting, leaflets announcing the 20th anniversary of the Young Communist League were distributed. Others advertised the Russian movie, "The Guerrilla Brigade" and the Russian Skazka restaurant. On the street a man was selling the DAILY WORKER when the meeting broke up.

The agents noted that in many instances whites and colored people arrived together and apparently were close friends."

AGENTS NOTE:

It is the opinion of this Agent that the musical rendition was by the Almanac Players of which the Subject of this investigation is a member.

Note: An F.B.I., New York, summary report, dated November 15, 1942, indicated that Baldwin had resigned from the JACD because of its refusal to join in a campaign in support of a test case on the issue of the legality of West Coast evacuations of Nisei. Toshi Ohta (fiancee of the Subject) is listed as a member of the executive board.

HARWOOD E. KIAN,  
Agent, CIC

MEMO F

Page 3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place: Governors Island, N.Y.  
Date: June 4, 1943

Case No. II - b11701m  
IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Inspection of G-2 Files: Survey Associates, Inc.

On May 3, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of G-2, Eq.,  
2nd Service Command, Governors Island, New York, regarding Survey Associates,  
Inc., publishers of Survey Graphic. The Subject's fiancee is said to be an  
employee of this concern as was her father.

The report indicates that the Survey Graphic in 1937 exhibited  
"reasonable liberalism." However, in December, 1942, the magazine appeared in all  
U.S.O. reading rooms and the publisher stated that subscription had been given  
by an anonymous person.

Review of the magazine at this time disclosed that it was mostly  
devoted to the Negro problem, and it featured inflammatory racial questions.

The content is otherwise generally rabble rousing and acceptance  
of Russian methods is a recurrent theme.

(MEMO)

Signed.....

Typed: HARWOOD E. RYAN,  
Sp. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place... Governors Island, New York

Date... June 5, 1943

Case No. II - b11701n  
IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEIGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Inspection of G-2 records: Toshi Ohta, acquaintance

On May 3, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the District Intelligence Office, Third Naval District, at Hq. 2nd Service Command, Governors Island, N. Y., regarding Toshi Ohta, reported fiancee of the Subject. (See CI-R1, IV b1526m, dated March 25, 1943). The following information was taken from the record.

Toshi Eileen Ohta, 76 Washington Square South, New York, N. Y., is the daughter of Takeshi Ohta (See below) and Virginia Harper Berry, with whom she lives. The mother is a United States citizen. Subject was born May 12, 1920, at Munich, Germany, and is now recording secretary for the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy. The F.B.I. is cognizant.

Takeshi Ohta was born in Iwuninura, Ebine, Ken, Japan, on 7/3/91; attended high school at Matsu Yama and one year at the University of Waseda, Tokyo. During 1912-1913, he assisted his father in raising funds for Dr. Sun for the First Revolution for Birth of Chinese Republic and was a Lieutenant in the Chinese Army during the revolution. He went to Brazil and worked there from 1913-1915, helping immigrants as interpreter in San Paulo. He worked on a British tanker during World War I. After the war he became employed at the Touchstone Art Gallery, New York, and also taught jui jitsu. From 1919-1922, he was employed as technician at the Provincetown Play House, New York, New York. From 1923-1926 at Hedgerow Theatre, Moylan, Pa., 1926-1928, Woodstock Play House, Woodstock, New York; 1929-1931, W.P.A. Federal Theatre, New York, N.Y.; 1932-1938, he worked at advertising. From 1938-1941, he lived at the estate of William Jenks, a friend, in Morristown, New Jersey. During this period he wrote on his South American and United States experiences and continued to give jiu jitsu lessons. He has written articles against present form of government in Japan. He uses pen names, Moto, Taka, and Homarei. He married Virginin Berry in Washington, D. C. There is a son Homarei Allen Ohta, presently at the College of St. John, Annapolis, Maryland (See below). All members of the family in the U. S. belong to the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy. Ohta states that he never has belonged to the Communist Party.

Homarei Allen Ohta is reported to have circularized a petition in Annapolis, Maryland, on behalf of Earl Browder.

(MEMO H)

Signed.....

Typed. HARWOOD E. RYAN

As Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place, Governor's Island, N.Y. ....

Date, June 5, 1943 .....

Case No. II - b11701m

IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: **PETER SEEGER, Pvt.**  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Inspection of G-2 Files: Almanac Singers and Players

On May 3, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of G-2, HQ., 2nd Service Command, Governors Island, New York, regarding the Almanac Players, a group of musicians to which the Subject belonged. The following information was extracted from the record.

A circular advertisement appeared for the Almanac Singers & Players. This bore endorsements by Mike Gold, writer for the DAILY WORKER; Nicky Horowitz, educational director of the International Workers Order; and the New Masses.

Attention is called to the fact that about June, 1941, a group of seditious records began to be heard. They attempted to stir up resentment for the Selective Service-Act and to the entry of the United States into the war. Names included: "Get Out and Stay Out of the War;" "Jim Crow;" "O as for Conscription;" "Washington Breakdown;" etc. These records were believed to have been produced in New York, New York, and they were advertised and recommended by the DAILY WORKER.

Another report dated April 14, 1942, stated that Woody Guthrie (friend of the Subject) was a member of the group. The group's propaganda disseminated by song and ballad. The lyrics were in keeping with the Communist Party line.

Mention is made of an unidentified young woman, associated with the group, who is of Japanese extraction, and who is said to have once been a Russian-Japanese translator for the Japanese government. She was exiled from Japan because of Communistic activities.

(MEMO I )

Signed.....

Typed HARWOOD E. RYAN.....

Sp Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Jep  
Governors Island, N. Y.

Place..... June 5, 1943  
Date.....  
Case No. II - b11701m  
IV - b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Inspection of G-2 Files concerning Eli Jaffe

On May 3, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York at the Headquarters, 2nd Service Command, Governors Island, New York, regarding one Eli Jaffe, who is reported to be a friend of the Subject (CI-R1, IV 1526m, dated March 25, 1943). The following information was secured from the records:

Report dated May 2, 1942:

Eli Jaffe, alias Charles Daniels, Clarence Daniels, James Elliott, Eli Jaffee, Frank Wise. F.B.I. agents saw Jaffe at a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Young Communist League at Manhattan Center, 34th Street and Eighth Avenue, New York City, on April 20, 1942.

Report dated November 7, 1942:

Jaffe married Wilma Esther Lewis of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on 9/27/42. She was active in the Young Communist League in Oklahoma City. Jaffe's New York address is given as 322 West 15th Street. The DAILY OKLAHOMAN stated that Robert Wood, former Oklahoma State Secretary of the Communist Party, Ina Wood, his wife, Alan Shaw, present secretary of the Party, and Eli Jaffe, former head of the Young Communist League in Oklahoma, appeared in appeal arguments before the Criminal Court of Appeals in Oklahoma City on September 9, 1942, in a Criminal Syndicalism case. Jaffe's father was Lithuanian, his mother, Russian. His occupation, as it appears on his marriage license, is that of newspaper writer.

Report dated April 20, 1943:

Jaffe and his wife are now living in Oklahoma as the Oklahoma State Criminal Court of Appeals has refused to allow him to leave the state, pending disposition of the criminal syndicalism charge. The original charge that he is a Communist has been reversed on technical grounds, but he is still charged with the sale of Communistic literature. Jaffe is now living on the farm of his wife's parents on the outskirts of Oklahoma City. He is reported to want to be classified as 1A instead of 4F so he can enter the Army of the United States.

(MEMO J)

Signed..... HENRY E. RYAN,  
Typed..... // Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place Governors Island, N. Y.

Date June 4, 1943

Case No. II — b11701n

IV b1526n

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Inspection of Birth Records, New York, N. Y.

On May 1, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the Department of Health, Manhattan, New York, N. Y. The following information was extracted from the records:

Name: PETER SEEGER  
Date of birth: May 13, 1919, Manhattan, New York  
Place: St. Elizabeth Hospital, 415 West 51st Street, New York City  
Father: Charles Louis Seeger, Jr.,  
Paterson, New Jersey  
Born: Mexico City, Mexico  
Age: 32  
Occupation: Musician  
Mother: Constance Seeger  
Paterson, New Jersey  
Born: Denver, Colorado  
Age: 32  
Other children: Two

(MEMO K)

Signed.....

Typed ... HARWOOD R. RYAN,  
Sp. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

jep

Place.....  
Governors Island, N. Y.

Date.....  
June 5, 1943

Case No. II-b11701m  
IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: **PETER SEEGER**, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: **Investigation of John Seeger**

On May 6, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. J. Dauchs, Three Minetta Lane, New York City, superintendent of the apartment in which John Seeger lives. This Agent sought information as to the relationship of John Seeger to the Subject.

Mrs. Dauchs said that John Seeger and his wife, Eleanor, occupied apartment 40 at the above address. They had come from Pawling, New York, in July, 1942. John is a woodworking instructor in a school, and Eleanor is a teacher. Both plan to leave soon to spend the summer at a summer camp.

Mrs. Dauchs did not know whether John Seeger had a relative named PETER SEEGER.

**AGENT'S NOTE:**

This Agent visited neighboring tenants of the Seegers, but was unable to secure additional information.

(MEMO)

Signed.....

Typed **HARWOOD E. RYAN**,

/Sb. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**

jep

Place... Governors Island, N.Y...

Date... June 5, 1943.....

Case No. II — b11701m  
IV b1526m

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE**

Subject: PETER SEIGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34395466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Inspection of records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation: Almanac Players

On May 1, 1943, this Agent inspected the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York, New York, and the following information appeared in the records.

An article appeared on January 1, 1943, in the NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM, quoting the DAILY WORKER as stating that the Almanac Singers are the pride of the Communist Party.

Prior to the entry of the United States into the war, the Almanacs sang songs condemning the President and Congress. They were against conscription with songs like "Every Fourth Boy Will Be Plowed Under." Since our entry into the war, they have urged further aid to Russia.

It is believed that this organization is subsidized by the Communist Party, and it is frequently praised by the "DAILY WORKER." The Almanacs now travel under the auspices of the Office of Civilian Defense, entertaining defense workers and Communist meetings.

Nicholas Ray Lomax, alias Raymond Nicholas Krenzle, 235 East 22nd Street, New York City, is a member. He is also program director for the Office of War Information.

Bess Brown Lomax, formerly 242 East 19th Street, New York City, and 577 Second Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan, was a member of the Almanacs. She is now employed by the Office of War Information. She was born January 21, 1921, in Austin, Texas.

Other members are Joe Bowers, Pete Bowers, Siss Cunningham, Arthur Steon, and Butch Bowers.

(MEMO M)

Signed.....

Typed MARWOOD E. RYAN

As Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Jop

Place... Governors Island, N. Y. ....

Date... June 5, 1943 .....

Case No. II - b11701m  
IV b1526m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sqdn.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Agency Check

The following information was received on an agency check  
made on Subject:

Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York  
District Intelligence Office, Third Naval District  
Censorship of New York  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
New York City Police Department  
Bureau of Information  
Bureau of Criminal Identification  
Criminal Alien Bureau (Radical Activities)  
Old Records  
Sp. Squad #1 (Subversive Squad)  
Credit Bureau of New York  
Department of Health (birth certificate) (See MEMO K)

NR  
R

(MEMO )

Signed.....  
Typed..... HARWOOD E. RYAN  
Sp. Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

MAY 27 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

en-19 To: Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L.R. Forney*

L. R. FORNEY  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

RECORDED  
EX-58

100-200845-3

F	B	I
15	MAY 27 1943	

254  
*RECORDED*  
*EX-58*  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New Orleans, Louisiana

(Date)

~~May 8, 1945.~~

Case No. VIII-

~~10629m~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: ~~PETER SIEGER, Pvt.~~  
ASN 54535466  
307th Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : ONI Check.

The District Intelligence Office, Eighth Naval District, New Orleans, Louisiana, reports no record of Subject as of

~~May 8, 1945.~~

~~Al. New~~

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

James I. Kelly  
Special Agent, CIC

(MEMO \_\_\_\_\_)

NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 01 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 100-200845-3

~~Confidential~~

Place Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Date May 7, 1943  
Case No. VIII -10628m

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SELGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: F. B. I. Check, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

On May 7, 1943, Miss Virginia White, Clerk, District Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, reported that office had no record of Subject as of that date.

Grady Elms  
Special Agent, CIC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington

MAY 21 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L.R. Forney*

L. R. FORNEY,  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures:

1 ENCL  
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259 em D70

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INDEXED

D182

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190-20816-2

E B T

24 MAY 21 1943

EX-145

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Cawson.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Kramer.....
Mr. McGuire.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Candy.....
Files.....

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

File No. IV B 1526n  
Date May 8, 1943

Subject: PETER SEEGERS, PRIVATE,  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Investigation requested by P.I.O. Keesler Field, Miss.  
Office of origin Dir. MID, 4th Serv. Command  
Report made at Miami, Fla.  
Report made by Geno J. Monroe, Agent, CIC  
Period covered April 15, 1943 to April 20, 1943  
Character of investigation Disaffection

Status of Case PENDING

## REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

Subject wrote letter protesting and criticising the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, citizens or not, after the war and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship. The Post Intelligence Keesler Field, Miss., requested a background investigation of the Subject. A CI-R1 report was prepared at Keesler Field, Miss., dated March 25, 1943, File IV B 1526n. This report contained undeveloped leads in the 4th Serv. Command. The Dir. 4th Serv. Command requested S/A in charge CIC District #56, Miami, Fla., to investigate the undeveloped leads prepare report there of on form CI-R1.

DETAILS:Fourteen-Point Topic Outline:

Investigation copies to Personal Data:  
G-2 II SC

G-2 VI SC Birth:

P10 Present Age:

Dist. cc Aliases:

Physical description:

Information Copies To

G-2 SC Marital Status:

G-2 Z Z. Family Data:  
P10 SC

Dist. CIC Father:

FBI Mother:

Grandmother:

REC'D. HEADQUARTERS 4TH SERVICE COMMAND MAY 12 1943

New York City, New York, May 3, 1919. (Memo J)  
24 years. (Memo J)

Known professionally as PETE SEEGER. (Memo J)  
Male; height, 73½ inches; weight, 140; eyes, blue;  
hair, brown; complexion, ruddy. (Memo J)

Unmarried. (Memo J)

ENCLOSURE 100-200845-2

Chas. Louis Seegeer, 9609 Fairway Ave., Silver Springs,  
Md. (Memo J)

Constance Seegeer; born in Denver Colorado, age 55, former  
address, P.O. Box 761 Little River Fla.; present address,  
3374 SW 26th St., Miami, Fla., music teacher, considered  
loyal. (Memo J,A,B,C,D)

Mrs. Tracy Edison, former address, 1211 S. Bayshore Dr.,  
Miami, Fla.; present address in New York not known.  
(Memo E)

FORWARDED,

MIS Dist Attn MID, Washington D. C.  
FBI  
AAF

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

STACY KNOPE  
Colonel, G. S. C.  
Director

NW 12849 DocId:59169341 Page 94  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
O. C. S., Form No. 19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## DETAILS: (Cont'd)

## 3. Education:

Harvard University; 1 year and 6 months, date not known.  
(Memo J)

## 4. Employment:

1940-1942; Singer and musician, working on his own.  
(Memo J)

1940 (sporadically) farmer, general day labor. Address unknown. (Memo J)

1939 (for two months); clerk, checking orders. Address unknown. (Memo J)

## 5. Military History:

Accepted for military service at Local Board #2, Jackson County, Scottsboro, Ala., ASN 34335466 (Memo J)  
July 23, 1942, Fort Mc Clellan, Ala. (Memo J)

## 6. Unit Check:

Rex P. Mulligan, Captain, 413 T.C. (formerly 595 T.C.C.)  
B.T.C. #4, AAFTC, Miami Beach, Fla. Negative. (Memo F)

E.F. Marion Baker, Adj. same address. Negative. (Memo F)

S/Sgt. F.L. Young, chief clerk, same address. Negative. (Memo F)

S/Sgt. T.J. Halley, same address. Negative. (Memo F)

S/Sgt. H.R. Hensing, same address. Negative. (Memo F)

S/Sgt Grattan, Miami, Beach, Fla. Negative. (Memo E)

## 7. Addresses:

1909; 1st Ave., room 211, Birmingham, Ala. date unknown.  
(Memo J/M)

5/1/42 - 5/6/42; S.D. Schmidt, 5547 Kenwood (garage apt.)  
Chicago, Ill. (Memo J)

5/24/42 - 5/1/42; S.E. Calbreath, 5521 Gaen Ave., Detroit,  
Mich. (Memo J)

3/23/42 - 4/14/42; S.V. Schroeder Hotel, S.V. Lawler, Milwaukee,  
Wis. (Memo J)

1942; 430 6th Ave., New York City. (Memo J)

9/14/41; 10001 Dallas Ave., Silver Spring, Md. (Memo J)

70 S. 12th St. New York City. (Memo J)

130 W. 10th St. New York City. (Memo J)

23 Downing St. New York City. (Memo J)

27 Jane St. New York City. (Memo J)

647 Hudson St. New York City. (Memo J)

Dates Unknown;

## 8. Barrack Check:

O/C H.S. Rice, Miami Beach, Fla. (S) (Memo G)

## 9. Organization:

None.

## 10. Principal Amusements:

None.

## 11. References:

None.

## 12. Acquaintances:

See barrack check above.

## 13. Credit Record:

N/A (Memo K)

## DETAILS: (continued)

14. Police Record: Post Intelligence and Provost Marshal offices, Miami Beach, Florida; FBI, ONI, Birmingham, Alabama. NR (Memos I, J)

Adverse Information: None.

Undeveloped Leads:

Request investigation in details for addressees, background, associations and leads from the following:

## 1. Director MID 2nd Service Command:

1. 70 E. 12th St., New York City, former address of Subject, dates unknown. (Memo J)
2. 130 W. 10th St., New York City, former address of Subject, dates unknown. (Memo J)
3. 647 Hudson St., New York City, former address of Subject, dates unknown. (Memo J)
4. 27 Jane St., New York City, former address of Subject, dates unknown. (Memo J)

## 2. Director MID 3rd Service Command:

1. Chas. Louis Seeger, father, 9609 Fairway Ave., Silver Springs, Md. (Memo J)
2. 10001 Dallas Ave., former address of Subject, 3/14/41. (Memo J)

## 3. Director MID 6th Service Command:

1. L. Gilbreath, 5521 Cass Ave., Detroit, Michigan, former address of Subject, 4/24/42 - 5/1/42. (Memo J)
2. D. Schmidt, 5547 Kenwood Ave., (garage apartment) Chicago, Illinois, former address of Subject, 5/1/41 - 5/6/42. (Memo J)
3. c/o V. Lawler, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, former address of Subject, 3/23/42 - 4/4/42. (Memo J)

Remarks and Conclusion:

Investigation revealed that Subject was in Miami, Florida, for approximately one month during 1939, and was at Miami Beach, Florida, for a short period during Subject's Army basic training. Further investigation revealed that Subject resided at 1909½ 1st Ave., Birmingham, Alabama, at time of Subject's registration for the draft. Only two persons knew the Subject. Due to short period time that Subject was in Miami Beach and in Birmingham, Alabama, very little information was obtained regarding Subject.

Recommendations:

Due to the short period of time that Subject has been in Miami Beach, and in Birmingham, Alabama, and in view of the fact that very little information has been found concerning Subject, this Agent recommends that the status of the case remain pending in the 4th Service Command until all undeveloped leads have been exploited in all Service Commands.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida  
April 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Kessler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Mrs. Britton, neighbor.

On April 17, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. Britton, 3374 S. W. 25th Street, Miami, Florida, regarding Subject.

Informant advised this Agent that she has never seen Subject and knows very little about him; that what little she knows was told to her by Subject's mother. Mrs. Britton stated that through Subject's mother, Mrs. Seeger, she learned that Subject was in the Army and stationed at Kessler Field; that Subject was supposed to be an airplane mechanic; also, that Subject was engaged to be married, but Informant could give no information regarding Subject's fiancee.

According to Mrs. Britton, Mrs. Seeger lived in a trailer in the rear of her home; that she rented the space to Mrs. Seeger for \$2.00 a week; that Mrs. Seeger has lived there a year and a month. Informant went on to say that Mrs. Seeger was a music teacher, teaching at the Conservatory of Music at Miami, Florida. Through Mrs. Seeger, Informant learned that Subject was associated with the Almanac Singers and that on two or three occasions, Mrs. Seeger listened to the Almanac Singers over the radio. According to Informant, Mrs. Seeger generally spoke about music and food, being quite a fanatic about foods. Mrs. Britton said that Mrs. Seeger associated with a Mr. Anderson, a Mrs. Bogart, and a Mrs. Leahy, all of whom visited Mrs. Seeger.

Mrs. Britton remarked that Mrs. Seeger was planning to go to Nassau and that Mrs. Seeger had been accompanied by Mr. Anderson to the British Consulate to get details about obtaining a passport. Informant further stated that Mrs. Edson, mother of Mrs. Seeger, had visited with Mrs. Seeger for a month or so, and that two or three weeks ago, Mrs. Edson left for New York. Mrs. Edson, according to Informant, is 86 years old.

Informant concluded by saying that she has never heard Mrs. Seeger make any derogatory remarks about our Government and that her conversations dealt mostly with music and food.

CLINE J. LEPORE,  
Agent, CIC.

( MEMO B )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida  
April 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: A. L. Arnold - Residence Check

On April 17, 1943, this Agent interviewed A. L. Arnold, 3371 S.W. 25th Street, Miami, Florida, regarding Subject.

Informant advised that he has lived at the above address for the past two years and that Mrs. Constance Seeger has lived in a trailer in the rear of 3374 S. W. 25th Street, for the past year. According to the Informant, he has never seen Subject and knows of Subject only through conversations with Subject's mother. Arnold said that Subject's mother is an accomplished musician and gives music lessons at the Miami Conservatory of Music at Miami, Florida. Informant further advised that the only organization or club that Mrs. Seeger belongs to is the American Red Cross (Casualty Station) in Coral Gables; that Mrs. Seeger is very enthusiastic about the Red Cross and on one occasion, took Informant's wife with her. Mr. Arnold stated that he heard Mrs. Seeger mention that Subject is a very adept musician and that he made his living thusly; that Subject sent money home to his mother every month. Informant went on to say that from conversations with Mrs. Seeger, he learned that Mrs. Seeger was planning a trip to Nassau. Arnold said that Mrs. Seeger used his telephone on numerous occasions and that all her calls pertained to business.

Mr. Arnold was of the opinion that Mrs. Seeger is pro-British. This opinion was formed by Informant through conversations with Mrs. Seeger. Informant advised that Mrs. Seeger's mother, Mrs. Edson, a woman of about 86 years old, lived with her for about a month or so; that Mrs. Edson went back to New York two or three weeks ago. According to the Informant, Subject's mother and father are divorced; that Subject's father is believed to be in Washington, D. C.; that Subject's father is somehow connected with music - that he composes and edits Pan-American music.

In conclusion, Mr. Arnold stated that his impression of Mrs. Seeger was that of a loyal American; that he has never heard her say anything against the Government.

GENE J. LEPORE,  
Agent, CIC.

( MEMO B )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida  
April 19, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Tech. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Interview with Dennis McDonough.

On April 17, 1943 this Agent interviewed Dennis McDonough, mail clerk, Little River Post Officer, Little River, Fla., regarding Subject.

Mr. McDonough told this Agent that a Mrs. Seeger held Box 761 in the Little River Post Office, from December 1939 to December 1942; that a forwarding addressee was left, said address being 3374 SW 25th St. Miami, Fla. Mr. McDonough furthered advised that the address given on the application for a mail Box dated 12/11/39 was ,William Trailer Lot, 2nd Ave. At 70th St. Informant stated that he knew neither Subject nor Subject's mother.

GENE J. LEPORE  
Agent, GIC

Memo C )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida  
April 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re: Interview with Mrs. Williams.

On April 17, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. Williams, owner of the Williams Trailer Lot Park located at N.E. 2nd Avenue and 70th Street, Miami, Florida, regarding Subject.

Mrs. Williams advised this Agent that Mrs. Seeger had rented trailer space at her trailer lot in 1939 and stayed until December 1942.

Informant stated that Mrs. Seeger was a music teacher and gave violin lessons; that she had very little to do or say to Mrs. Seeger; that she, the Informant, took care of all telephone calls for Mrs. Seeger and that all phone messages pertained to making an appointment for a music lesson, or cancelling an appointment for a music lesson.

Informant said that sometime in 1941, Subject visited his mother at the Parking Lot and stayed for a month, after which Subject left for the West Coast. Mrs. Williams said that she saw Subject only once and could give no opinion regarding him.

According to Informant, she never heard Mrs. Seeger make any remarks against the United States and concluded by saying that it was her belief that no one presently living at the Trailer Lot could give any information regarding the Subject or the Subject's mother.

GENE J. LEPORE,  
Agent, C.I.C.

( MEMO D )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida  
April 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34355466  
307th Tech. Sch. Sq.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Interview with Mrs. B. LeClercq.

On April 19, 1943, this Agent interviewed Mrs. LeClercq, 1211 S. Bayshore Dr., Miami, Fla., regarding Subject.

Informant advised this Agent that she did not know Subject, that she had never heard his name mentioned. Informant, however, stated that Mrs. Tracy Edson, Subject's grandmother, had lived at the above address for the past year, that Mrs. Edson had left Miami about three weeks ago, for New York. Informant stated that she had found Mrs. Edson to be a charming old lady, and considered her to be a loyal American.

Gene J. Lepore,  
Agent, CIC

Memo E,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida.  
April 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SINGER, ERNST, Pvt.,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 T.S.S.,  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re: Unit Checks.

On April 15, 1943, this Agent accompanied by Agent Sims interviewed Capt. Rex P. Nulligan, Commanding Officer, Lt. Margaret Baker, Adj., W/Sgt. F. L. Young, Chief Clerk, S/Sgt T. J. Valley, and S/Sgt H. R. Mensing all of the 413 T.C. (formerly 595 T.S.S.) BTO #4, AAFTTC, Miami Beach, Fla. regarding Subject.

None of the above stated Informants knew Subject.

RICHARD N. LEWIS,  
Agent, CIC.

(memo F)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida.  
April 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SIEGMAR, PETER, Pvt.,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 T.S.S.,  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re: Barracks Check.

On April 15, 1943, this Agent accompanied by Agent Sims interviewed O/C H. S. Rice, former member of the 595 T.S.S., BIC #4, AAFTC, Miami Beach, Florida regarding Subject.

Informant stated that he had known Subject casually having taken basic training together for about ten days to two weeks and having roomsd in the same hotel during this time. Informant described Subject as being between 20 and 24 years of age, tall, a pretty good singer who had lead singing, intelligent, well educated and a person with a very smooth personality. Informath stated that although Subject was not a trouble maker he was inclined to "goof off", that is, a person who tried to evade work and get out of obeying commands.

Informant stated that due to the brief period of association with Subject he could not attest to his character or loyalty. Informant stated that he had never heard anything derogatory concerning loyalty of Subject.

RICHARD N. LEWIS,  
Agent, CIC.

(MEMO G)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida.  
April 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: STEWART, NEIL, Pvt.,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 T. S. S.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Barracks Check.

On April 15, 1943 this Agent accompanied by Agent Sims interviewed S/Sgt. Gratton, 422nd T. C., AAFITC, Miami Beach, Florida regarding the Subject.

Informant stated that although he was the drill instructor of the flight to which the Subject was assigned in the 595 T. S. S., AAFITC, Miami Beach, Florida he does not recall the Subject.

RICHARD N. LEWIS,  
Agent, CIC.

(MEMO H)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miami, Florida.  
April 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: SNEIDER, PETER, Pvt.,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 T.S.S.,  
Keesler Field, Miss.

Re: 2-2, Provost Marshal, and 201 File Checks.

On April 13, 1943, this Agent accompanied by Agent Sims inspected the files of the 2-2, Provost Marshal and 201 files all of RIC #4, AAFTTC, Miami Beach, Florida regarding Subject.

None of the above stated files contained any information as regards Subject.

RICHARD N. LEWIS,  
Agent, CIC.

(MEMO I )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Birmingham, Alabama  
April 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.  
ASN. 34335466, 307th T. C. S.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Record Check,  
Local Board #2, Jackson County  
Scottsboro, Alabama

On April 26, 1943, this Agent interviewed Miss Mary A. Riley, Local Board #2, Jackson County, Scottsboro, Ala., in connection with the investigation of PETER SEEGER.

The Informant produced the record of Subject from which this Agent extracted the following:

Name: PETER SEEGER

Address: 1909 First Ave., Room 211, Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama

Race: White Order #: 2468 Serial #: 1423

Alias: Also been known professionally as PETER BOWERS

Temporary Residence: E.C.L. Seeger, Fairlea, Patterson, Putnam Co., New York, N.Y.

Social Security #: 074-16-6625

Attended: Harvard College, taking General Course, 1 year & 6 months.

Profession: Singer & Musician, for two years previous to date. Earnings: \$20  
He was an independent worker, working on his own, hiring no help. weekly.

Former occupations during past 5 yrs.: Clerk, checking orders (2 months, 1939)  
Farmer, general day labor, unskilled, 1940 (sporadically)

Single and no dependents.

Born: May 3, 1919 at New York, N. Y.—Citizen. No conviction of treason or a felony.

Questionnaire was sworn to on June 16, 1941 at New York.

Subject was temporarily classified I-A on March 9, 1942; I-A again May 20, 1942  
and was sent from Scottsboro to Ft. McClellan on July 23, 1942. He did not take his 14 day furlough. Was placed in Class I-C August 4, 1942.

Description: Height, 6' 1"; Weight, 140; Eyes, Blue; Hair, Brown; Age, 21  
Complexion, Ruddy.

Father's Address: Chas. Louis Seeger, 9609 Fairway Ave., Silver Spring, Md.  
Screen Medical Exam. was given Subject by Local Bd. #17, 412 6th St., New York City, N. Y. around April 22, 1942.

His Army Serial Number was listed as 34335466.

The following information was extracted by this Agent from an Affidavit dated December 2, 1941 made by Subject's mother, Constance Seeger. She gave her address as P.O. Box 761, Little River Sta., Miami, Florida. Her affidavit was to the effect that she was partly dependent on Subject; that he contributed approximately \$100.00 yearly for the past two years to her support, and hoped to begin sending her \$30.00 a month; that she was 55 years of age, born at Denver, Colo.; that she gave up her job in 1939 and went to Florida because of ill health; and that she was then living in a NW: 12819 Dochastic 169414, Page 16 teaching music lessons. Her mother was living with her.

(MNG J )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Also among Subject's record was a report made by Welfare Board, Dade County, District #9, 31 N. E. First St., Miami, Fla. dated February 25, 1942 from which the following was extracted:

Subject's mother taught violin and was employed by Miami Conservatory of Music. She had been connected with Juilliard School in New York, but was granted a leave of absence because of health. She lived at 3374 S. W. 25th St., Miami, Fla.

She told the Welfare Investigator that Subject had been sending her \$10.00 a month irregularly; that she made between \$500.00 and \$800 a year, maybe a little more; and that she would attempt to get along without Subject's help so that he could go into the Army.

Below are listed Subject's change of addresses as given to the Board, together with the dates at each address when they are known:

10001 Dallas Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland (3/14/41)

70 East 12th St., New York City, N. Y.

130 West 10th Street, New York City.

430 6th Ave., New York City. (after May 6, 1942)

23 Downing St., New York City.

647 Hudson St., New York City.

SL. Gilbreath, 5521 Cass Ave., Detroit, Mich. (4/24/42 - 5/1/42)

ED. Schmidt, 5547 Kenwood (garage Apt.) Chicago, Ill. (5/1/42 - 5/6/42)

EV. Lawler, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis. (5/23/42 - 4/4/42) Theatrical Tour.

27 Jane Street, New York City.

Subject also went on a Theatrical Tour around the latter part of 1941 across country to the West Coast. This was around October, and he was on this tour for 3 or 4 weeks. The tour included the larger cities between New York and San Francisco.

WILLIAM J. QUALLS  
Agent, CIC.

(MEMO J)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Birmingham, Alabama  
May 5, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER BERGER, Pvt.  
ASN 34335466, 307th T.S.S.  
Kosciusko Field, Mississippi.

To: Credit Check,  
Retail Credit Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

On the above date this Agent interviewed L.A. McAllister,  
Agr., Retail Credit Company, Brown Mark Bldg., Birmingham, Alabama  
in connection with the investigation of PETER BERGER.

No record was found on subject in the above agency,

LUCIUS D. FULLER  
Special Agent, CIO.

(initials K)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Birmingham, Alabama.  
May 4, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER (PETE) SPRINGER, Pvt.  
ASH 34335466, 307th. T.S.S.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

To: FBI and O.W.I. Checks,  
Birmingham, Alabama.

On May 3, 1943, this Agent checked the records FBI and O.W.I.  
Birmingham, Alabama Offices in connection with the investigation  
of PETER SPRINGER.

No record was found on Subject in the above agencies.

Louis M. DURKEE  
Agent, O.W.I.

(MADDO L)

~~SECRET~~  
Birmingham, Ala.  
April 29, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: PETER SINGER, Pvt.  
ACN 34335466, 207th P.C.S.  
Reeber Field, Mississippi

To: Address Check; Room 211  
1909½ First Ave., Birmingham, Ala.

On the above date, this agent checked the address of Room 211 at 1909½ First Ave., No., Birmingham, Ala., PETER SINGER having given such address, minus indicating that it was North First Ave., in the papers which he gave to his draft board at the time of registration at Scottsboro, Ala.

There is an office building at 1909½ First Ave., North, Birmingham, Ala., but in this building there is no such room number as 211.

A check of the city directories shows that there is also a 1909½ First Ave., South, but this is a small mercantile building, and there are no separate rooms listed.

Agent's Note: It is noted that the local Communist Party headquarters in Birmingham, Ala. where Rob Hall, the party secretary for District #16, has his office is in the Clark Building, in room 211 of that building. The Clark Building is about three blocks from 1909½ First Ave. No., but its side entrance has a similar number on Third Ave., No., this being 1928 or 1930 (the number is not on the door). This information is set down here to indicate a possible unconscious act on Subject's part in putting down an address which was similar to one with which he was quite likely familiar.

~~SECRET~~  
LEONARD D. FULLER  
Special Agent, CIA.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service,  
Washington.  
APR 26 1943

**Subject:** Letter of Transmittal.

To: The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

LH Toney

L. R. FORNEY,  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

**Enclosures:**

Enclosures:

Copy of following  
Commercial dated  
March 27/43 1/25/43  
sent to Mr. S. J. Smith  
1/26/43 X  
1/27/43 X  
1/28/43 X  
1/29/43 X  
1/30/43 X  
1/31/43 X  
2/1/43 X  
2/2/43 X  
2/3/43 X  
2/4/43 X  
2/5/43 X

~~37093 2-1  
100-370932  
NOT RECORDED  
119 NOV 29 1950~~

61 DEC 1 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1 Report

WAR DEPARTMENT  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

File No. IV B 1526 M  
Date March 25, 1943

Subject: PETER SINGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466.  
307th Tech. Sq.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Investigation requested by P.A.O., Keesler Field, Miss.  
Office of origin Dir., MID, HQ, 4th Service Command  
Report made at Keesler Field, Mississippi  
Report made by En. N. Wiso, 1st Lt., A.C., Asst. PIO  
Period covered November 18, 1942 to March 25, 1943.  
Character of investigation Disaffection

(D) Status of Case PENDING

REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

Potential subversion under W.D. letter dated November 9, 1942, File AG 014.311 (11-3-42) OB-S-B-M, Subject: "Disposition of Potentially Subversive Personnel."

✓ Subject wrote letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, citizens or not, after the war and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship. (EXHIBIT 1)

DETAILS:

Fourteen-Point Topic Outline: (Unless otherwise indicated the following information was obtained from Subject's W.D., A.G.O. Form No. 20, and W.D., A.G.O. Form No. 24).

1. Personal Data:

Investigation Copies To  
G-2 III VI SC VIII

G-2 WD CIV 7 SC

Dist. 56 CIC MIS

Information Copies To

G-2 SC

G-2 SC

----- P10

Dist. CIC

----- E9

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Birth: New York, New York, May 3, 1919.  
Citizenship: United States.  
Present age: 28 years and 11 months.  
Aliases: None indicated.  
Physical description: Halo; race, white; height, 73 inches; weight, 143 lbs.; eyes, blue; hair, brown; complexion, fair; badly pimpled face; and rather prominent red nose. (MEMO D)

Personal Characteristics: Unassuming, very musical, reads a great deal, uncommunicative, satisfactory worker, extremely liberal in his views. (MEMOS A, B, C, E, F)

Marital Status: Unmarried.

Family Data:

Father:

Charles Seeger, born in Mexico City, Mexico; present address, Pan American Union, Washington, D. C.

ENCLOSURE

HEADQUARTERS 4TH  
SERVICE COMMAND  
CIV. INT. DIV.

APR 6 1943

FORWARDED,

MID, Wash

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

MIS WASH 1943

FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~DETAILS: (Cont'd)2. Family Data: (Continued)

## Mother:

Constance Beeger; born in Denver, Colorado; former address, P.O. Box 4781, Little River St., Miami, Florida; present address, 3374 S.W. 26th Street, Miami, Florida. (MEMO M and EXHIBIT XV)

## Brother:

Charles L. Beeger, Jr.; former address Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; present address, Box 696, RFD #2, Forest Home, Ithaca, New York. (MEMO N)

## Grandmother:

Mrs. Tracy Edson, 1211 S. Bayshore Drive, Miami, Florida. (EXHIBITS XIII, XIV)

## Relative:

John Beeger, 3 Minetta Lane, New York, New York. Exact relationship not indicated. (EXHIBIT XIX)

3. Education:

1924-1932, grammar school, Spring Hill, Connecticut, graduated.  
1932-1936, high school, Avon-Old-Farms, Connecticut, graduated.  
1936-1938, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, non-graduate.

4. Employment:

1940-1942, employed by Almanac Singers, New York, New York, as entertainer.

5. Military History:

Accepted for service at Local Board #2, Jackson County, Scottsboro, Alabama.

July 24, 1942, Fort McClellan, Alabama, oath.

July 24, 1942, Fort McPherson, Georgia, processed.

July 31, 1942, 695 Tech Sch Sq, Miami Beach Florida, recruit training.  
August 19, 1942, 306 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, airplane mechanic student.

December 8, 1942, 307 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, airplane mechanic student.

6. Unit Check:

Captain Albert M. Rambo, A.C. (S) (MEMO A)

Sergeant Julius S. Fiscus. (S) (MEMO B)

S/Sergeant Carl Elkins, (S) (MEMO C)

7. Addresses:

430 6th Avenue, New York City; dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XII)

23 Downing Street, New York City; dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XII)

3374 S.W. 26th, Miami, Florida; dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XII)

CONFIDENTIAL

DETAILS: (Cont'd)6. Barracks Check:

Private Carl Moldovan. (U) (MEMO E)  
 S/Sergeant Michael Foster. (S) (MEMO F)  
 Private Paul Martella. (S) (MEMO G)

9. Organizations:

Harvard Student Union, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1957-1958; cosecretary.

Camp Rising Sun Alumni Association, 55 W. 44th Street, New York City, and Box 33, Walden, New York. (EXHIBIT XXI).

10. Principal Amusements:

Music, carpentry and water color painting.

11. References:

None given.

12. Acquaintances:

Miss Drusilla Adams, White House Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi; civil service examiner at Keesler Field, Mississippi; casual acquaintance. (U) (MEMO H)

Pfc. Walter S. Neff, Medical Detachment, Keesler Field, Mississippi; casual acquaintance. (MEMO H and EXHIBIT VII)

Pfc. Nick Demas, 2nd Academic Squadron, Keesler Field, Mississippi; casual acquaintance. (MEMO H)

Sergeant David Jackson, 584 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi; close acquaintance. (MEMO H) (EXHIBIT XVI)

Private Frederick K. Klaessig, 56th Tng Gp, Keesler Field, Mississippi; casual acquaintance. (EXHIBIT XX)

(Neff, Demas, Jackson, and Klaessig above described, were not interviewed concerning Subject for the reason that all are under investigation by this office for disaffection.)

Miss Toshi Ohta, 129 MacDougal Street (formerly 76 Washington Square), New York, New York; Subject's fiancee; a Japanese-American, very active in the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, 76 West 52nd Street, New York City, and at present employed by Survey Associates, Inc., 112 East 19 Street, New York City. She is also associated with "Gamut Arts Club", 61 Washington Square, New York City. (MEMOS E, I, O) (EXHIBITS II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIV, XVI)

Father of Miss Toshi Ohta, name unknown; Japanese; formerly employed by Survey Associates, Inc., 112 East 19 Street, New York City;

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~DETAILS: (Cont'd)12. Acquaintances: (Cont'd)

presently playing in the stage production "The Family", which opened in Boston, Massachusetts, March 15, 1943. (MEMO I and EXHIBITS IV, X, XIII).

Private Leo Spivaak, 991 T.S.S., Flight C, Atlantic City, N.J.; correspondent. (EXHIBIT XVII)

Julian Pernovici, 5757 Second Blvd., Detroit, Michigan; correspondent; (EXHIBIT XVIII)

Private Morton Dimondstein, ASN 52626009, HQ, Btry 367 P.A. Bn., A.P.O. 104, Camp Adair, Oregon; correspondent. (EXHIBIT XX)

Private I. "Frank" Schlauswig, 21st Provisional Group, Flight A, ORTC, Atlantic City, N.J.; correspondent. (MEMO L)

Helen Robinson, Village Vanguard, New York, N.Y.; relationship with Subject not known but is mentioned as an acquaintance by Miss Toshi Ohta. (MEMO L)

Lt. A. Swarts, ATC, Cudahy Field, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; correspondent. (MEMO L)

W. W. "Woody" Guthrie, 74 Charles Street, New York City; correspondent. (MEMO L)

Allen Shaw, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; member of Communist Party; principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; friend of Subject. (EXHIBITS XV, XVI)

Mrs. Ina Wood, wife of Robert Wood who was state secretary of the Communist Party in Oklahoma; principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; friend of Subject. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)

Eli Jaffe, New York, N.Y.; Communist Party worker and principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; formerly in newspaper work in New York; friend of Subject, and visitor at Almanac House, New York City. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)

Tad Wright, Secretary, Camp Rising Sun Alumni Association, 55 W. 44th Street, New York City and Box 35, Walden, New York. (EXHIBIT XXI)

13. Credit Record:

No record at this Station.

14. Police Record:

Satisfactory at this Station. (MEMO M)

INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECT:

(MEMOS I and J)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADVERSE INFORMATION:

1. While a member of U. S. Armed Forces, Subject wrote letter protesting and criticizing the California American Legion's resolution advocating deportation of all Japanese, citizens or not, after the war, and barring all Japanese descendants from citizenship. (REASON FOR INVESTIGATION & EXHIBIT I)
2. Subject was formerly employed by, and still has a great interest in, the Almanac Singers of New York City, a roving band of singers Communistic in character. The nature of this organization is of such a character that Subject himself and some of his acquaintances feel his connections therewith might be the cause for his present status at this station. (MEMO J and EXHIBITS III, IV, VII, XVI, XVIII)
3. Subject is engaged to Miss Toshi Ohta, the daughter of an American mother and a Japanese father, who was banished some years ago from Japan for political reasons. Toshi Ohta is an active worker and enthusiastic supporter of the Japan-American Committee for Democracy, a Communist infiltrated organization. Subject also shows a definite interest in and connection with this organization. (MEMOS E, F and G and EXHIBITS II, III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIV, XVI)
4. Subject is a "good friend" of Allan Shaw, Mrs. Ina Wood and Eli Jaffee, Communists and defendants in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials". Subject admits barely escaping "being hooked into that round up too". (EXHIBITS IV AND XVI)
5. Subject is an acquaintance and associate of several persons who have been or are being investigated by this office because of their relation with Communism. (MEMOS E and H and EXHIBITS XVI and XX)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

Request check of the following references, acquaintances, employers, addresses, schools, relatives, organizations and police records covering complete background investigation.

1. M. I. S., War Department.
  - (1) Charles Seeger; father; Pan American Union, Washington, D. C.
2. Director, M.D., Eq., 1st Service Command.
  - (1) Spring Hill Grammar School, Spring Hill, Conn. Subject was student there 1924-1932.
  - (2) Avon-Old-Farms High School, Avon-Old-Farms, Conn. Subject was student there 1932-1936.
  - (3) Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Subject was student there 1936-1938.
  - (4) Harvard Student Union, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Subject was a member and secretary 1936-1938.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNDEVELOPED LEADS: (Cont'd)

5. Director, M. I. D., Eq., 2nd Service Command.

- (1) Charles L. Seeger, Jr.; brother; former address, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.; present address, Box 696, RFD #2, Forest Home, Ithaca, N.Y. (MEMO N)
- (2) John Seeger; relationship unknown; 3 Minetta Lane, New York, N.Y. (EXHIBIT XIX)
- (3) Almanac Singers, Almanac House, New York, N.Y.; employer of Subject 1940-1942; Subject retains great interest in same; said organization is possibly Communist in character. (MEMO J and EXHIBITS III, IV, VII, XVI, and XVIII)
- (4) 430 6th Avenue, New York City. Former address of Subject but dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XXI)
- (5) 28 Downing Street, New York City. Former address of Subject but dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XXI)
- (6) Camp Rising Sun Alumni Association, 55 W. 44th Street, New York City, and Box 33, Walden, N.Y. Subject is member of this organization. (EXHIBIT XXI)
- (7) Ted Wright, Secretary, Camp Rising Sun Alumni Association, 55 W. 44th Street, New York City, and Box 33, Walden, N.Y.; correspondent of Subject. (EXHIBIT XXI)
- (8) Miss Toshi Ohta, 129 MacDougal Street (formerly 76 Washington Square), New York, N.Y.; Subject's fiancee; a Japanese-American, very active in the Japan-American Committee for Democracy, 76 West 52nd Street, New York City, and at present employed by Survey Associates, Inc., 112 East 19 Street, New York City. She is also associated with "Garut Arts Club", 61 Washington Square, New York City. (MEMOS E, I & O and EXHIBITS II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, XI, XII, XIV and XVI)
- (9) Father of Miss Toshi Ohta, name unknown; Japanese; formerly employed by Survey Associates, Inc., 112 East 19 Street, New York City; presently playing in the stage production "The Family", which opened in Boston, Mass., March 15, 1943. (MEMO I and EXHIBITS IV, X & XIX)
- (10) Private Leo Spiivaak, 991 T.S.S., Flight C, Atlantic City, N.J.; correspondent of Subject. (EXHIBIT XVII)
- (11) Private I. "Frank" Schlauswig, 21st Provisional Group, Flight A, ORTC, Atlantic City, N.J.; correspondent. (MEMO L)
- (12) Helen Robinson, Village Vanguard, New York, New York; relationship with Subject not known but is mentioned as an acquaintance by Miss Toshi Ohta. (MEMO L)
- (13) W. W. "Woody" Guthrie, 74 Charles Street, New York City; correspondent of Subject. (MEMO L)
- (14) Eli Jaffo, New York, N.Y.; Communist Party worker and principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; formerly in newspaper work in New York; friend of Subject, and visitor at Almanac House, New York City. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)
- (15) Check Police files in New York City.
- (16) Check files of Federal Bureau of Investigation in New York City.

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## 4. Director, M.I.D., Eq., 4th Service Command.

- (1) Constance Seeger; mother; former address, P.O. Box #761, Little River St., Miami, Fla.; present address, 5374 S.W. 25th Street, Miami, Fla. (MEMO M and EXHIBIT XV)
- (2) Mrs. Tracy Edson; grandmother; 1211 S. Bayshore Drive, Miami, Fla. (EXHIBITS XIII and XIV)
- (3) Local Board #2, Jackson County, Scottsboro, Ala. Subject was accepted for military service there.
- (4) 595 Tech. Sch. Sq., Miami Beach, Fla. Subject received recruit training there July 31, 1942 to August 19, 1942.
- (5) 5374 S.W. 25 H., Miami, Fla. Former address of Subject but dates unknown. (EXHIBIT XXI)

## 5. Director, M.I.D., Eq., 6th Service Command.

- (1) Julian Berccovici, 5757 Second Blvd., Detroit, Michigan; correspondent of Subject. (EXHIBIT XVIII)
- (2) Lt. A. Swarts, ATC, Cudahy Field, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; correspondent of Subject. (MEMO L)

## 6. Director, M.I.D., Eq., 8th Service Command.

- (1) Allen Shaw, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; member of Communist Party; principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; friend of Subject. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)
- (2) Mrs. Ima Wood, wife of Robert Wood who was state secretary of the Communist Party in Oklahoma; principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; friend of Subject. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)
- (3) Eli Jaffe, New York, N.Y.; Communist Party worker and principal in "Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials"; formerly in newspaper work in New York; friend of Subject, and visitor at Almanac House, New York City. (EXHIBITS XV and XVI)

## 7. Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army:

- (1) Private Morten Dimondstein, ASY 32628009, Eq. Batry 387 F.A. Bn., A.P.O. 104, Camp Adair, Oregon; correspondent of Subject. (EXHIBIT XX)

REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS:

This Officer is of the opinion, based on the facts contained in this report, that Subject has possibilities of divided loyalty to the extent that a change in the Communist Party line would result in potential subversion.

Subject is intensely loyal at this time. He is eager to join the battle effectively against Fascism, and is applying himself to improve his military and technical knowledge to be of greatest service.

Page seven.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS: (Cont'd)

Against this is Subject's background and his continued associations with military personnel at this station who are proven Communists. Subject professes that he was a good friend of three persons tried for sedition in Oklahoma and admits that he, personally, barely escaped prosecution for similar charges. He was a member of the Almanac Singers, wandering troubadours, a group which appears to be either a direct or an indirect instrument of the Communist Party. His admiration for Russia includes far more than mere admiration of that country's military stamina.

In addition, Subject's mind is conditioned by his love for a woman of Japanese-American descent, who is presently connected with an organization infiltrated with Communists. While this relationship appears on a high plane, this Officer believes it to be unorthodox and one which might lead to divided loyalty in the event this country's treatment of the Japanese were not in accord with the views of himself or the woman he expects to marry.

While at this station, Subject has made contact with known Communists and he is sympathetic to their problems and the so-called discrimination against them. These associations have added rather than detracted to his communistic idealism. As an entertainer, his songs have been colored subtly toward idealistic classlessness.

Therefore, despite Subject's intelligence and desire to apply himself to the destruction of the enemy, this officer believes that enemy to be Fascism and not necessarily any enemy of the United States.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

This Officer deems Subject potentially subversive within the meaning of W.D. letter dated November 9, 1942, File AG 014.511 (11-3-42) OB-S-B-N, Subject: "Disposition of Potentially Subversive Personnel."

Request Subject's transfer from the Army Air Forces.

Recommend complete background investigation and that Subject remain under surveillance while case is pending.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 24, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SIEGER, Private

34356466 ASN

307. Tech Sch Sq

Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with Captain Albert M. Rambo  
Commanding Officer

On March 24, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed Albert M. Rambo, Captain, A.C., regarding Subject.

Captain Rambo stated that he was commanding officer of the 307 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, for several months prior to March 1, 1943, and that Subject was under his command for a period of approximately three months; that close personal contact with Subject was confined to one occasion and such came about when Subject was brought before him for disciplinary action; that a close perusal of Subject's alleged offense resulted in the Subject's exoneration; that although cognizant of the fact that Subject was being investigated by authorities here, he has never observed anything derogatory concerning Subject and has been unable to form any satisfactory opinion concerning Subject's loyalty; that nothing has come to his attention to lead him to believe Subject is Communistic or even extremely liberal in his views.

Informant also stated that Subject performed his duties as a soldier satisfactorily, is quiet, unassuming, and pursued his own affairs without meddling into those of others.

*Robert C. Josey Jr*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

(MEMO A)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
January 29, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34535466  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with Sergeant Julius Fiscus  
Flight Leader

On January 28, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed Sgt. Julius S. Fiscus, 306 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, regarding Subject.

Sgt. Fiscus stated that he was Subject's flight leader for two or three months prior to the latter part of November, 1942, the time during which Subject was attached to 306 Tech Sch Sq, but was never closely acquainted with Subject; that Subject was an air mechanic student during the above stated period.

Informant stated that Subject was hospitalized while in his flight and lost sufficient time to necessitate his dropping back into another class; that Subject was somewhat of a musician and composed several songs and it was in this direction that Subject's chief interest lay; that Subject possessed his own typewriter and was a pretty good typist; that Subject spent much of his leisure reading, the subject matter of which is unknown to this informant; that Subject appeared on the post radio show, "Free For All", in a banjo number and was interviewed thereon; that in the interview Subject told about his previous experiences as a wandering musician. Informant did not recall the details of these experiences. In conclusion informant said he knew nothing derogatory concerning Subject.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JONES III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

2021

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
January 28, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with S/Sgt. Carl Elkins  
Acting First Sergeant

On January 27, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed S/Sgt. Carl Elkins, Acting First Sergeant, 307 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, regarding Subject.

Sgt. Elkins stated that he knows Subject only casually; that Subject has finished air mechanic school and since that time has been doing quite a bit of typing for one of the flight leaders; that Subject appeared on one of the post radio shows and has a great interest in the activities of the post Special Services Department; that he knows nothing derogatory concerning Subject.

*Robert C. Josey III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
January 28, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SERGER, Private  
ASN 34385466  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with S/Sgt. John Haggard  
Flight Leader

On January 28, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed S/Sgt. John Haggard, 307 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, regarding Subject.

Sgt. Haggard stated that he has been Subject's flight leader since about the latter part of November, 1942, when Subject was attached to 307 Tech Sch Sq; that during the past three or four weeks Subject has been working directly under him, typing rosters, etc.; that his association with Subject is limited to duty hours.

Informant also stated that Subject performs well his assigned tasks, seldom complains about army life and possesses no unusual characteristics; that Subject keeps pretty much to himself and is uncommunicative, never referring to his family, any girl friends, the war or anything else other than the business at hand; that Subject is interested in music and is quite a good banjo player; that Subject spends quite a bit of his leisure typing and reading, the nature of which is not known by the informant; that he has no knowledge concerning Subject's correspondence; that he knows nothing derogatory concerning Subject.

Informant described Subject as being tall and thin, with badly pimpled face and a rather prominent nose.

*Robert C. Jossey Jr.*

ROBERT C. JOSEY, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

(MEMO D)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with Carl Moldovan, Private  
Barracksmate.

On January 21, 1943, during an interview by Lieutenant W. H. Wise of this office with Carl Moldovan, Private, ASN 32076189, attached to 307th Technical School Squadron, Keesler Field, Mississippi, the following information concerning Subject was brought out.

Private Moldovan stated that he and Peter Seeger were barracks mates; that Peter Seeger was extremely liberal in his views and was either a Communist or had been under strong Communistic influence; that Subject corresponded with a Japanese-American (half Japanese-half American), Mies Toshi Ohta, 76 Washington Square, South, New York City, who Subject stated was active in an organization called the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy; that this organization bore every stamp of a Communist front organization.

Operator's Note: Carl Moldovan has been under investigation by this office for disaffection. Very shortly after the above interview, Moldovan was deemed potentially subversive under W. D. Letter dated November 9, 1942, File AG 014.311 (11-3-42) OB-S-B-M, Subject: "Disposition of Potentially Subversive Personnel", by the Director, M.I.D., Fourth Service Command and has been transferred out of the Air Corps. He admits former membership in the Communist Party.

*Robert C. Jersey III*  
ROBERT C. JERSEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(MEMO E)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
January 28, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEDGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Interview with S/Sgt. Michael Foster  
Barracks Leader

On January 28, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed S/Sgt. Michael Foster, 307 Tech Sch Sq, Keesler Field, Mississippi, in regards to Subject.

Sgt. Foster stated that he is in charge of barracks #11 and Subject has been living therein for the past three or four weeks; that Subject performs satisfactorily his assigned duties around the barracks and has given him no trouble; that Subject finished airplane mechanic school about one month ago and is awaiting shipment to another station and assignment to duty; that during this waiting period Subject has been doing various typing jobs for the squadron and is working under the direction of Sgt. Haggard, and also has occasionally performed certain fatigue duties in the squadron area.

Informant stated also that, while he does not associate with Subject other than is necessitated by his duties, he does know that Subject spends much of his leisure in reading and typing but does not know the subject matter of either; that Subject is quite adept as a banjo player; that nothing has come to his attention about Subject that is unusual or outstanding.

*Robert C. Josey III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(MEMO P)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 21, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34385466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Interview with Private Paul Martella,  
Barracksmate.

On March 21, 1943, this Special Operator interviewed Private Paul Martella, ASN 33468456, 307th Technical School Squadron, Keesler Field, Mississippi, regarding Subject.

Private Martella stated that for approximately six weeks prior to the first part of March, 1943, he was quartered in the same barracks with Subject; that Subject during that period was serving as a runner for the Squadron Orderly Room and was on the night shift; that consequently he had had very little opportunity to know Subject; that Subject is a former AM Student and is apparently awaiting shipment and assignment to another station; that Subject's chief interest seems to be along musical lines and Subject is quite a good banjo player; that Subject does not appear to be outstanding in any respect and there is nothing apparently about Subject which makes him different from the average soldier; that he has never heard Subject mention anything about his experiences before his induction; that he knows of no close friends of Subject; and that nothing concerning Subject has ever come to his attention.

*Robert C. Jersey*  
ROBERT C. JESSEY, P.I.,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.,  
ASN S4385466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Interview with Drusilla Adams, Acquaintance.

On February 26, 1943, this Officer interviewed Miss Drusilla Adams, civil service examiner at this station, and who resides at the White House Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi, regarding Subject.

Miss Adams stated that on two occasions she had met a young soldier called "Pete" at informal social gatherings given at the Back Bay House, a former private home and now used as a rehearsal studio on Keesler Field by members of the Recreation and Art Sections of the Special Services Department, Keesler Field.

This Officer described Subject to Miss Adams and she stated without question that the "Pete" referred to was Peter SEEGER.

The conversations in each instance were along intellectual lines, Miss Adams stated, with most of the discussion centering on treatment of the Negro in the South.

Miss Adams stated that she had not seen Subject since those meetings and declared she was not in a position to determine Subject's loyalty, other than that he, along with other soldiers present, presented rather liberal views.

Those present on the two occasions who she did know were Walter Scott Neff, David Sackson and Nick Demas, who are constant associates.

OFFICER'S NOTE: Pfc. Walter Scott NEFF, 32511024, Medical Detachment, is a member of the Communist Party and is deemed potentially subversive by this Office. NEFF is a psychologist, attached to the Station Hospital.

Sgt. David SACKSON, 32230674, 394th Technical School Squadron, Keesler Field, Mississippi, indicates extreme communistic tendencies and is under investigation by this office to determine potential subversion. SACKSON is a violin player, attached to the Recreation Section, Special Services.

Pfc. Nick DEMAS, 36526152, 2nd Academic Group, Keesler Field, Mississippi, also indicates communistic tendencies, having been a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and left-wing union affiliations, and is also under investigation. DEMAS is an electrician in the Air Mechanics School, Keesler Field.

This Officer believes Subject's contact with other Communists and Communist sympathizers, all of whom live at widely separated points on Keesler Field and whose duties call for no normal military contact with each other, has resulted in continued stimulation and interest in Communism and Communist doctrines.

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(MEMO H)

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Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943,  
Page two.

Subject: Peter SEEGER, (Cont'd)

This officer believes further that it is no accident that members of this group, which included others also under investigation for the same reasons, have gravitated toward each other. There has been no direct supervision over the Back Bay House, where SACKSON lives with another soldier, and it provides an ideal meeting place, free from outside interference. All activities at the Back Bay House are now under investigation by this office.

The conversations at which Miss Adams was present have no other significance, as she was an outsider, but the fact that she identified Subject as being present on two occasions indicates the possibility of Subject's close association with others under investigation for the same reasons.

Miss Adams holds a responsible position on Keesler Field, has an excellent family and educational background in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Provost Marshal check reveals nothing derogatory.

*William H. Wise*  
WILLIAM H. WISE, 1st Lt., A.C.,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.

(MEMO R)

Page 2.

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 5, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Pvt.,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Interview with Subject.

On March 4, 1943, this Special Operator, acting as a member of the Classification Section interviewed PETER SEEGER, ASN 34335466, Subject, for the purpose of disclosing any potential subversiveness.

Subject stated that at the present time he is classified as a graduate of the Keesler Field, Mississippi AM school, Air Corps Unassigned and that he has been working in the Orderly Room of his squadron. Subject said that he could have no idea and he has no idea of why he has not been sent to some air field as an aviation mechanic. Subject stated that he is the last one of his group of men who graduated from AM School in December, 1942. Subject stated that he does not mind being held on the field, for since he plays any old-fashioned five-string banjo and plays it well, he has decided that he might be taken into the Special Services Department here at Keesler Field, for he believes that his musical ability can be used. Subject stated that at the present time he is making attempts to become part of the Special Services Department.

Subject stated that he was born in New York and that that city is his home at the present time although he has spent a great deal of time during the past few years as sort of a wandering musician. It was because of this wandering that he was inducted into the Army in Alabama, for Subject was in Alabama at the time he was supposed to register for the Selective Service and at the time set for his induction he was in the North but returned to the South to be inducted. SEEGER stated that he is not married but that he is engaged to a New York girl whose mother was born in Virginia and whose father was born in Japan.

Concerning his fiancee, Subject stated that her father is a refugee from Japan and that he came to this country because he disagreed with the militarists of Japan and was consequently given the choice of remaining in Japan and being executed or leaving Japan and being allowed to live. Subject stated that the girl's father chose the latter.

When questioned as to whether or not there is some sort of Japanese-American organization in New York, Subject stated that such an organization does exist under the title of the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy and that this organization has such sponsors as Pearl Buck and Albert Einstein. Subject stated that the State Department has taken quite an interest in the organization and has several times provided speakers for meetings held by the JACD. This organization, according to Subject, was organized for the purpose of showing this country that the Japanese who were born here are one hundred per cent American. Subject said that resolution had been passed by the organization in order to indicate the loyalty of the "Nisei" to the U.S. Subject said that members of the JACD have assisted in combating the threat of the Black Dragon.

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 5, 1943,  
Page two.

Subject: Peter SREGER (Cont'd)

Society that has been active in the new settlements provided by the Government for the Japanese who have been placed in them.

Concerning a resolution supposedly passed by an organization of the West Coast, Subject stated that he believed that a group called the "United Farmers" or some such organization had passed a resolution to the effect that all Japanese be deported to Japan after the close of the war. However, Subject does not believe that the majority of the people of the West Coast would want to see this happen.

Operator's Notes:

It is this Operator's opinion that Subject was truthful in all answers that he gave this Operator and that he made no attempt to withhold anything from this Operator during the interview. Subject spoke freely concerning the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy and made no attempt to disolor in any way or in any way praise this organization. From all indications, Subject has no idea that anything he has done or any associations he might have had in the past or might have at the present time would be cause to hold him on this field or keep him under surveillance at any time.

*Roderic C. Duchemin*

RODERIC C. DUCHEMIN,  
Special Operator, P. I. O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(MEMO 1)

Page 2.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 16, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: SEEGER, PETER, Pvt.,  
ASN 54335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Examination of Keesler Field "Free for All"  
radio script of Dec. 17, 1942.

On March 12, 1943 this Special Operator examined the script of the radio program "Free For All" which was broadcast from War Department Theatre No. 1, Keesler Field, Mississippi, on December 17, 1942, from 1900 to 1930. The program was broadcast by remote control through radio station WWL, New Orleans, Louisiana, under the auspices of the Public Relations Department of Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Subject was interviewed on the program by one of the personnel of Keesler Field by the name of Proctor. Proctor's complete name did not appear in the script. In the course of the interview Subject stated that he played a five string banjo and had always been interested in playing and singing songs. He said that he brought his banjo with him to Keesler Field and while here at Keesler Field he had taught some of the men a few of the songs which he knew. Subject said that he had learned his songs all over the United States; that he had been born in New York but had never lived there much; that he learned singing and his songs in the South and the West, in "barrooms, churches and what have you". "I've slept under some of the best bridges in the country", said Subject.

Continuing, Subject declared that he had been drafted into the army but before being drafted he had been with a group of young people like himself who called themselves the "Almanac Singers". The Almanac Singers never made any money, said Subject, but they enjoyed themselves. They made up songs about what was going on in the world and got the words for their songs right out of the newspaper headlines. Subject then said that he would sing them a song about an average guy writing a letter to the President of the United States. Before singing the song Subject said: "Some of us are here because we had friends and relatives at Pearl Harbor. Some are here because a committee of our neighbors got together, but here are some reasons all of us are here". Subject then sang his song: "Dear Mr. President".

The song concerned an "ordinary guy" with wife, kids, etc., who likes to see a movie and take a drink every now and then, and who liked to be free and to say what he thinks. The general theme of the song is that we must lick Hitler and keep our freedom. The song continues by declaring that this country is not perfect but will be some day, and then Subject says in the song that he wants to fight for a better America, better laws; that he wants to fight so that we won't have any more Jim Crow laws which say that you can't do this because you are a Jew, or you can't come in here because you are a negro, or you can't work here because you are a Union man.

*John Patton Jr.*  
J. W. PATTON, Jr.,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.

(MEMO J)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi.  
March 22, 1943.

DISCREPANCY FURTHER CHIEFLY IN CHARGE

Subject: PAPER SCARF, Private,  
ABN 34355400,  
307 Tech Com Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

To : Police Check at this Station

On March 22, 1943, this Special Operator investigated the records of the Office of the Provost Marshal, of 300th Technical School Squadron, of 307th Technical School "quadron and Subject's W.D., A.G.O., Form No. 24.

These records reveal, with reference to Subject, no courts martial, no desertions, no A.W.O.L., no punishment under the 106th Article of War, and no time lost under the 107th Article of War.

*Robert C. Jones Jr.*  
ROBERT C. JONES, JR.,  
Special Operator, P.I.C.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(MEMO B)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage

Following is a list of individuals not mentioned in other MEMOS or Exhibits of this CI-R1 with whom Subject has corresponded or who are mentioned in correspondence of Subject.

The correspondence contains nothing of a subversive or disaffectionate nature, nor does it reflect upon the character or characteristics of Subject; is, therefore, omitted from this CI-R1.

Those names are included here as possible UNDEVELOPED LEADS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Pvt. I. "Frank" Schlauswiger<br>21st Provisional Group<br>Flight A, ORTC<br>Atlantic City, N.J. | 3. Lt. A. Swartz<br>ATC<br>Gudahy Field<br>Milwaukee, Wisconsin |
| 2. Helen Robinson<br>Village Vanguard<br>New York, N.Y.  | 4. W.W. "Woody" Guthrie<br>74 Charles Street<br>New York, N.Y.  |

Operator's Note:

W.W. "Woody" Guthrie, mentioned above, is probably the "Woody" referred to by Subject in letter shown in Exhibit XVI.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

(MEMO L)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 23, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private  
ASN 34335466  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Mail Coverage

On March 20, 1943, a letter from Subject to his mother was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Mis mother's address was given as follows: Mrs. Constance Seeger,  
8374 S.W. 25th St., Miami, Florida.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III  
Special Operator, P.I.O.  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

(MEMO M)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETTER SIEGER, Private  
ASN 34335466  
307 Tech Sch Sq  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

Re : Mail Coverage

On March 15, 1943, a letter from Subject to his brother was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

His brother's address was given as follows: Mr. Charles L. Seeger, Box 696, RFD #2, Forest Home, Ithaca, N.Y.

*Robert C. Jones II*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(MEMO N)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SPICER  
Private, ASN 34835466,  
397th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Japanese-American Committee for Democracy.

On March 25, 1943, this Special Operator examined Summary of Information from the War Department, W.I.D., dated February 13, 1943, which Summary of Information was evaluated as being reliable and Subject of which is Japanese-American Committee for Democracy.

It appeared from this Summary of Information that the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, formerly known as the Committee for the Democratic Treatment of Japanese Residents in the Eastern States, was formally originated in the fall of 1940 and has become more active since the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941.

The organization is composed chiefly of American citizens of Japanese descent and Japanese nationals. The avowed objectives of this organization are to educate American-born Japanese to engage actively in the rights of the citizens of a democracy, and to foster among Nisei and Japanese nationals who are sympathetic to the United States a program of education in democratic principles and of support of the United States Government defense interests.

On April 14, 1942, "a mass victory rally" was held by the organization at the Hotel Diplomat, New York City. The main theme of the meeting was the necessity for a peoples army which would include no racial discriminations or "Jim Crowism". It was reported that Communistic literature was available after the meeting.

It is known that many of the officers and advisors of the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy are members of allegedly Communistic front organizations.

OPERATOR'S NOTE:

For further information concerning the activities and objectives of this organization, see Exhibit IV.

*Robert C. Jones Jr.*  
ROBERT C. JONES, Jr.,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(THRU O)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

San Francisco, California  
October 15, 1942

Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2  
Headquarters, Fourth Army  
Presidio of San Francisco  
California

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Private PETER SNEGER

Dear Sir:

The American Legion headquarters has forwarded to this office the following letter received from Private PETER SNEGER, 306 TSS, Flight C, Keesler Field, Mississippi:

"Dear Sirs -

"I felt shocked, outraged, and disgusted to read that the California American Legion voted to 1) deport all Japanese after the war, citizen or not, 2) Bar all Japanese descendants from citizenship!!

"We, who may have to give our lives in this great struggle -- we're fighting precisely to free the world of such Hitlerism, such narrow jingoism.

"If you deport Japanese, why not Germans, Italians, Rumanians, Hungarians, and Bulgarians?

"If you bar from citizenship descendants of Japanese, why not descendants of English? After all, we once fought with them too.

"America is great and strong as she is because we have so far been a haven to all oppressed.

"I felt sick at heart to read of this matter.

"Yours truly,

"Pvt. PETER SNEGER  
306 TTS Flight C  
Keesler Field, Miss."

"I am writing also to the Los Angeles Times"

Yours truly,

/s/ N.J.L. PIEPER  
N.J.L. PIEPER  
Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On November 26, 1942, a letter, written on printed stationery of "Gamut Arts Club, 61 Washington Square South, New York City", addressed to Subject, from 76 Washington Square, New York City, signed "Toshi", and postmarked "New York, New York, Nov 23, 1942, 10:30 AM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"I have started in my JACD work again and am up to my neck in work again. But there is so much work that has to be done. We have lovely new headquarters up on 52nd Street. Right next to all of the big night clubs. We have two bathe rooms, an office, a smaller room, and also a large sort of hall."

Operator's Note: "JACD" refers to Japan American Committee for Democracy, described in Memo O and Exhibit IV. "Toshi" is Miss Toshi Ohta, Subject's fiancee, who is half-American, half-Japanese.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SLEGER, Private,  
ASN 34385466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On December 10, 1942, a letter, addressed to Subject, from 76 Washington Square, New York, N.Y., signed "Toshi", and postmarked "New York, N.Y., Dec 8, 1942, 1:30 AM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"Yesterday we had a Pearl Harbor memorial meeting at the Committee--it came off quite successfully. Charles Collins, Executive Secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and organizer of the Hotel Employees Union gave an excellent speech, which hit the exact spot. Bradford Smith, who lived for four years in Japan and is with the Foreign Language Division of the OWI in Washington....Also Max Hill who was an A.P. correspondent and was in prison in Japan and came home recently on the Gripsholm.... There were reporters from the Times, Tribune and News.... As soon as I get a chance I'll send In Fact down to you....I went over to the Almanacs to get your things."

\*\*\*\*\*

"If mother wants us to have a regular wedding, long white dress and everything, I'd do it for her. Even if it results in a fight with you and disapproval from your family....I myself would like to have a memory of a lovely white simple church wedding....I'd want something lovely to remember and really start something new with--not just the continuation of an affair with a wedding license to bind us."

Operator's Note: The committee referred to is apparently the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, a Communist infiltrated organization described in Memo O and Exhibit IV. The Almanacs is a singing organization to which Subject belonged and which appears to be Communist in character.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SINGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage

On March 12, 1943, a letter addressed to Subject, signed "Toshi", and postmarked New York, N.Y., March 8, 1943, 11:30 PM, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

C O P Y

#22

Dearest Peter

Darling you don't know how sorry I am that the Japanese question has come up and is bothering you....not you personally, of course, but what you are doing in the army. Frankly, I think that combination of Almanac's etc. and me is going to keep you from going over seas. Not that I mind that..from the danger point of view...But what good is your going through all this training and having the government spend so much money on you..if they don't allow you to use it.. for the use that it supposed to be for.. Hope you didn't say too much about Daddy's banishment and the cause. Nowadays it is just as bad to be too progressive as it is to be a militarist.

Am enclosing the summaries of the Forum we had on Japanese Americans in the Victory program.. at the Hotel Commodore. Thought you might be interested in how we are getting along.

In the future I would be a little careful what you put in letters ...  
But put plenty of love in them..

Darling...I miss you muchly.. and want you more than ever.

Your own..Toshi  
/s/ Toshi

Incl #1: Mimeographed form in outline.

E X T R A C T  
JAPANESE AMERICANS IN THE VICTORY PROGRAM

Upon the basis of strengthening the war effort of the United Nations.. loyal Japanese Americans..must be integrated into the nations war program.

1. For total utilization of all manpower...

Put to work the available idle manpower of 110,000 Japanese American evacuees from the West coast...

(EXHIBIT IV)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943  
Page two.

Subject: Peter SEEGER, Re: Mail Coverage (Cont'd)

2. Destroy the fifth Column and its Influence...  
Distinction must be made between true anti-Fascist, "phoney", pro-axis, sincere but confused elements.
3. End discrimination against Japanese Americans because of race.
4. Prevent mis-use of the Japanese American problem by reactionary forces...  
Defeat discriminatory anti-Japanese measures in state legislatures, and as they appear in Congress.

WHAT YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN DO

.....have your membership express its understanding by passing resolutions on RESETTLEMENT and AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RACE...take action on legislation affecting Japanese Americans...include loyal Americans of Japanese birth or descent in your fight...establish procedures to make use of evacuee labor...have your organization contribute financially to the furthering of the work of the Japanese American Committee for Democracy on this program.

Incl #2: Mineographed Form

~~EXTRACT~~

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS

Forum on Japanese Americans in the Victory Program, Hotel Commodore, New York, February 13, 1943, co-sponsored by Japanese American Committee for Democracy, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.....

Abner Green...citing the recent move of the Senate reactionaries under Senator Reynold's leadership to "investigate" conditions in the War Relocation Centers as an example of the dangerous interest that such forces have in the Japanese American problem, he pointed out that such an "investigation" was in reality an attack not only on the Japanese American evacuees, but also an attempt to discredit the War Relocation Authority, a Government agency carrying out its job as an authorized part of the President's war program.

Blake Clark, OCD, Washington, D.C.,.....quoting from the records of Nisei in the Army and from their superiors, from the FBI, from all sources who had constant contact with Japanese Americans, particularly in Hawaii, he stated the conviction that as a group there was no doubtting the integrity of these people nor any question as to which side has their support in this war.

(Donald Henderson advocated giving Am. Japs full democratic rights because this would be a factor influencing the instituting a real democratic government in Japan after the war, and not just a puppet and a sham. He felt the Japs would be inspired by our treatment of their brothers over here, and would become good democrats after we'd beaten them)

John C. Baker, Chief, Office of Reports, War Relocation Authority, Washington, D.C....described living conditions (in relocation centers) as at a "minimum standard of decency," providing food and shelter, adequate care in cases of sickness, education for the children, and work in maintenance of center life....

Arthur Upham Pope, Chairman of the Committee on National Morale... noted the fact that certain journalists had attempted to "cast suspicion and

(EXHIBIT IV)

Page two.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943,  
Page three.

Subject: Peter SEGER, Re: Mail Coverage (Con'd)

ill will on this undertaking and those concerned with it" as indication that they were thus taking the Nazi line, "to create suspicion on one community against another," and were by so doing rendering their own patriotism doubtful....

Louis Goldblatt, International Representative of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO (Among other recommendations made this one) America to stop discrimination against Asiatics; amend the naturalization law so that all Orientals can become naturalized citizens, recognizing this as the "single greatest political weapon" for defeating the Axis, and proving to the people of Asia that America is fighting a people's war, and will get the people's peace and a people's war...RESOLUTION unanimously adopted:.. this Forum..urge the complete elimination of all forms of discrimination against Japanese Americans...and we (oppose) Bill, S-444, providing to turn over supervision of the War Relocation Centers to the War Department.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private  
ASN 34535466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 2, 1943, a letter, addressed to Miss Toshi Ohta, 76 Washington Square, So., New York, N.Y. from Subject, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"I would have been very interested in seeing Farewell to Arms. I never did see it, although I read parts of the book. It's funny that movie owners should show it again in these days of war. You shouldn't wonder though, why wars are fought "over and over again, without much advancement." Dear, you know very well, and if you don't, you'd better ask Taknobi right away about the causes of fascism and the nature of imperialistic expansion! The fact that so few of those peace movies and plays never explained this is one reason maybe we are at war now. They would have been really important works of art had they gone all the way, instead of stopping halfway in their condemnation of war. They didn't condemn the causes. But of course, how could they, when they were produced by a billion dollar capitalistic industry."

"The trouble is, as communists have pointed out again and again, pacifism isn't enough. The same psychology that said, 'how true' to Farewell To Arms and the like, said, let us stay peaceful and not take any hand to stop invasion of innocent countries by the Fascists. (That's a broad statement and maybe a little unfair to some.)

"But the great lesson of the past twenty years must certainly be this which we have always said: that Pacifism is not enough."

(EXHIBIT V)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 9, 1943, a letter, addressed to Miss Toshi Ohta, 73 Washington Sq. So., New York, N.Y., from Subject, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E A T R A C T

"Life here does seem sort of meaningless. In the first place, I am not with you, dear, and makes it seem like all the last seven months have been: just living through time until I can get back to you. Also, though some might say, and according to the army this is true: I am helping serve the country by doing a job, no matter how small. I didn't do it, somebody else would have to do it. But I know very well that I spend much of each day loafing, and there are other ways I could serve my country, and what is more important to me, serve anti-fascism better."

(EXHIBIT VI)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 23, 1943, a letter from Subject to Miss Toshi Ohta, 129 MacDougal Street, New York, N.Y., was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"I spoke last night at supper with two progressives here at camp, formerly quite well known, who have been sidetracked here at camp...the army is scared of giving them any position of influence, or, in the army's own words 'put them in any position where they can influence the opinion of anyone'. So they have been given menial work around here, and in spite of endless requests they made to get transferred to combat duty, etc. etc., here they remain. One is a ward boy in the psychiatric ward-- he was formerly a brilliant psychologist. The other I don't know what they have given him to do.

"These two think that the reason I'm staying here so long is because of the Almanacs and you, but I really don't think so-not for another month or so. (Funny that's what I said last month, isn't it?)."

Operator's Note: The "ward boy" mentioned upon is unquestionably Walter Scott Neff, who is under investigation by this office because of his Communistic tendencies and who is referred to in Memo K.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(EXHIBIT VII)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 54335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On February 11, 1943, a letter, addressed to Subject, from 76 Washington Square, New York City, signed "Toshi", and postmarked "New York, N. Y., Feb 5, 1943, 12:00 M", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"I went up to Am-Rus, and got the Russian thing for you, and it really looks like Greek to me! Hope that the guy who speaks Russian knows what he's gotten in for when he looks at the characters in the song books".

Inclosure: A pamphlet of verses in Russian published by the Am-Russ Music Corporation, Exclusive distributors of Russian and Soviet Music for North America, 37 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y. Price 10¢.

(EXHIBIT VIII)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SENGER, Private,  
ASN 84386466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 13, 1943, a post card, addressed to Subject, from 76 Wash Sq., and postmarked "New York, N.Y., Mar 8, 1943, 2:30 PM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi. The face of the card showed a reproduction of a painting by V. P. Yefanov, entitled "In Her New Country" and depicted a Spanish girl in the USSR.

C O P Y

"#22

Dearest: Got this at the "Studio" in Philly -- like our Irving Place Theatre. I'm sorry about "me" ancestry -- if it's causing trouble. Love & keep well.

Your own Toshi."

(EXHIBIT IX)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
507th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 16, 1943, a letter addressed to Subject, from Toshi Ohta,  
76 Washington Sq, New York, N.Y., was intercepted at Keesler Field,  
Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"Did you know that Daddy opens in a play "The Family" in Boston  
on Monday? Some producer put on Arsenic and Old Lace and Life with Father...  
which are both nuts and having been running for two years. So there  
is a chance that it will be a hit... I hope. It's only a small part  
but he is directing all the Japanese fighting scenes, etc., in it and  
getting credit for it on the programs, etc."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Lately I have been working up at Daddy's office...Survey Grafic...  
so that I can take over his job while he is playing out of town."

Operator's Note:

Name of Miss Ohta's father is not revealed. He is believed to be  
a Japanese refugee.

*Robert C. Jones Jr.*  
ROBERT C. JONES, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage

On March 6, 1943, a letter, written on printed stationery of "Japanese American Committee for Democracy, 76 West 52nd Street, New York, N.Y., Plaza 8-2620", addressed to Subject, from 76 Washington Square, New York, N.Y., signed "Toshi, alias Mrs. Peter Seeger", and postmarked "New York, N.Y., Mar 1, 1943, 10:30 PM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

D E X T R A C T

"As you can see I am back in town and also back at the Committee...."

\* \* \* \* \*

"P.S. I forgot to tell you we are moving to McDougal St. next to the Provincetown Playhouse (I hope) signed the lease today..."

(EXHIBIT XI)

NW: 12819 DocId: 59169341 Page 10 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SENGER, Private,  
ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 18, 1943, a letter, written on printed stationery of "Survey Associates, Inc., Publishers of Survey Graphic-Survey Midmonthly-112 East 19 Street-New York City", addressed to Subject, from 129 MacDougal St., New York, N.Y., signed "Toshi" and postmarked "New York, Madison Sq. Sta., March 16, 1943, 1 AM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"Well, we have moved at last."

(EXHIBIT XII)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi  
March 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER, Private,  
ASN 34355466.  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 16, 1943, a letter, addressed to Subject, from Mrs. Tracy Edson, 1211 S. Bayshore Dr., Miami, Fla., signed "G. mother W.", and post-marked "Miami, Fla, Mar. 11, 1943, 9:50 AM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

The letter itself contains nothing of interest to this office but several newspaper clippings of some significance were enclosed with letter.

1. An AP account of Secretary of Navy Knox's appearance before a Senate Committee reports that Knox states that "we'll probably impose upon her" (referring to Japan) "that she'll never have another fleet-- she has exhibited that she is not qualified to have one" and that it will be the duty of the U. S. to police the Pacific and to prevent any aggressive power from raising its head there after the War. There appears on the margin of this clipping written in ink the following comment: "Impossible to impose such conditions for more than one generation."

2. Copy of letter to the Editor of the Miami Daily News entitled "Russia and the Baltic States" written by Charles Wade. It discusses and defends Russia's right to the Baltic States which she took two years ago. No specific states were mentioned.

3. A newspaper picture of Russian peasants once again on liberated soil with rakes and other implements of farming.

4. Copy of letter to the Editor of the Miami Daily News entitled "Co-operation With Russia" written by D. Ross of Miami. The general theme stated is that Russia has saved the world from fascist domination and that we should co-operate with her. It points out that Lord Beaverbrook, Willkie, Averill Harriman, Dot Parker of the New York Times, Leland Stowe and Son Robertson of P.M. have urged this action and that certainly they could not be accused of favoring Communism.

*Robert C. Jones III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(EXHIBIT XIII)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEDGER, Private,  
ASN 34355466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re : Mail Coverage.

On March 20, 1943, a letter from Subject to his "Grandmother", Mrs. Tracy Edson, 1211 S. Bayshore Drive, Miami, Florida, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"It is possible that I am being held here because of my former connections with the Almanac Singers and because of my engagement to a Japanese-American, but I doubt it. I have never tried to hide either fact and the latter especially, I believe, the Military Intelligence knows of."

Inclosed with said letter are the following:

1. Newspaper clipping:

C O P Y

Red Press Plays Up Lend-Lease

MOSCOW, March 15, --(AP)---

Pravda, Communist party organ, devoted half its foreign news section today to a report made by Lend-Lease Administrator Edward A. Stettinius, Jr., March 7, on weapons and materials sent to Russia under the lend-lease agreement. The account was contained in a Tass news exchange dispatch from Washington and was dated March 11.

A digest of the report was first printed in Moscow on March 12. Prominent display also was given to the press conference of British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden in Washington and to the latest Flying Fortress raid on Western France.

2. Clipping from February 15, 1943, TIME Magazine:

C O P Y

THE NISEI PLIGHT

Sirs:

Representative J. Leroy Johnson is asking Congress to investigate the relocation Centers. The new California Republican has heard rumors that rationing was not being applied to the (internment) camps and that this was

(EXHIBIT XIV)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943,  
Page 2.

Subject: FETER SINGER (Cont'd)

causing much discontent among people on the West Coast suffering food shortages.

Please note that we evacuees have been suffering shortages since last May. We mothers have been frankly worried about the vitamin-deficient meals every since we were first confined, and have had to supplement our diet with purchases from the outside, of meat, butter, eggs and fruit, which have never been adequate. It might interest you to know that our supper tonight consisted of a bowl of sweetened bean soup, which most Nisei do not like, two pieces of vinegared beets and two slices of pickled radish. Tea and rice completed the meal'....

We evacuees would gladly and willingly suffer food shortages on the outside if we were permitted to live in normal communities. Many of our sons and brothers are in the armed forces of the only nation we know and it is with real pride we would make "sacrifices" so that our soldiers should remain the best-fed in the world....

(Mrs.) Hanna Kozasa

Heart Mountain, Wyo.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER,  
Private, ASN 34355466,  
507th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On March 15, 1943, a letter, addressed to Subject, from 5374 S. W.  
25th St., Miami, Fla., signed "M" and postmarked "Coral Gables, Fla.,  
March 13, 1943, 2:50 PM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.  
Said letter contained the following newspaper article by Associated  
Press.

C O P Y

THREE COMMUNISTS WIN REVERSAL

Oklahoma City, Feb. 17.—The Criminal court of appeals Wednesday re-  
versed convictions of three defendants in Oklahoma's 1940 Communism trials  
that attracted national attention.

The decision wiped out sentences of 10 years in the penitentiary  
and five thousand dollar fines assessed against the trio on charges that  
they were guilty of criminal syndicalism by belonging to the Communist  
Party.

The defendants were Allan Shaw, who was Oklahoma City secretary of  
the party; Mrs. Ina Wood, wife of Robert Wood who was state secretary  
of the party, and Eli Jaffe, who was a young party worker and lately  
in newspaper work in New York.

Wood's conviction and similar sentence is also before the appellate  
court for review.

The main opinion of 37 pages written by Presiding Judge Dick Jones  
found no competent evidence to show the party sought change by force  
and violence, and no proof that the defendants or the party advocate  
principles stated in a vast number of books admitted in the trial.

Nevertheless, it said, if the defendants believe in such doctrines,  
they should realize that the juries who "unanimously and speedily gave  
them the maximum sentence under the law were speaking the sentiments of  
this community in general and that the public is practically unanimous  
against such doctrines and will not condone such advocating".

(EXHIBIT XV)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Operator's Note: Probably from Subject's mother.

*Robert C. Jolley III*  
ROBERT C. JOLEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(EXHIBIT KV)

Page 2.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER,  
Private, ASN 34355466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On March 18, 1943, a letter, addressed to Miss Toshi Ohta, 76 Washington Sq. So., New York, N.Y., from Subject, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"I saw Dave Sackson today. He is just back from a 2 wk. furlough (that is the standard length of them around here). He was running around a lot of the time seeing people in N. Y. & Washington, to get to the bottom of the Special Services Division (morale division-education & recreation) set-up. He is a strange half-grown half-this & half-that situation. Morale work has become so important in the eyes of the brasshats especially when they see its success in German & Russian armies (I hate to class the 2 together, but Germany (in imitation of Russia, largely) & Russia have really gone all out in singing work, etc. History will tell, of course, how effective Germany's lying propaganda is, but all admit the German troops have pretty good morale."

\*\*\*\*\*

"Did you read of Eli Jaffe, & 2 others being acquitted in the Oklahoma sedition cases? They are good friends of mine. Woody & I came within about a month of being hooked into that round up too. We were singing in Okla. city a little before!

I wonder if this will have any affect on the Bridges case.

I think you met Eli Jaffe once, over at Almanac House. A quiet, nice, Brooklyn boy."

Operator's Note: Sackson is Sergeant David Sackson, ASN 3230674, 394th Technical School Squadron, Keesler Field, Mississippi, who is under investigation by this office for Communist sympathies. This operator invites attention to the fact that Subject states he is a good friend of the Communists named in Exhibit XIV and that Communist Jaffe has been at Almanac House, headquarters of Almanac Singers, of which Subject was a member.

*Robert C. Jossey III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(EXHIBIT XVI)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 19, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER,  
Private, ASN 34336466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On February 11, 1943, a letter, addressed to Subject, from Pvt. Leo Spivaak, 991 T.S.S., Flight C, Atlantic City, N. J., and postmarked "Atlantic City, N.J., Feb 6, 1943, 12 PM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"Polette's a great man. He made the domestic fascists eat crow when they were trying to get his political head on the chopping block."

Operator's Note:

Polette may be former Lt. Governor Polette of New York State.

*Robert C. Jones Jr.*  
ROBERT C. JONES III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SIEGER, Private,  
ASN 34535466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On March 16, 1943, a letter, addressed to Subject, from Julian Bercovici, 5757 Second Blvd., Detroit, Mich., and postmarked "Detroit, Mich., 17, Mar 12, 1943, 11 PM", was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

The writer states that recently he has appeared at several bookings with the Almanac Singers.

He also encloses a copy of a song, the words to which are as follows:

GET TOGETHER, COME ONE, SISTERS

Oh, come folks go by color  
And some folks go by the man  
But if we want to win to victory  
We must go hand in hand. So get together

I've been troubled  
I've been tried  
I've been ostracized  
But if we want to win to victory  
We must go side by side. So get together

I've been Jimrowed all over this land  
Ever since Old Black Joe  
But I'm gonna pick up my sword and shield  
And I ain't gonna run no more. So get together

Freedom, freedom, that's my aim  
Fight for it till I die  
But till we fighting side by side  
I won't be satisfied. So get together.

Chorus

Come one, sisters, join all together  
Got together, come one sisters  
We've got to defend this land.

(EXHIBIT XVIII)

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER,  
Private, ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

To: Mail Coverage.

On March 20, 1943, a letter from Subject to John Seeger, 3 Minetta Lane, New York, N. Y., was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T S

"I have sung on a number of the local shows with some success. The guys like homemade music, I guess. But a number of others also like the politics I throw into the songs, I think."

\*\*\*\*\*

"Concerning Keesler, I have learned a great deal here. You learn to get along with all kinds. Even when bumming around I could pick my own companions. But here I meet the opinions of every kind of American, it seems like. Good practice, too, in a way, for in my head I think how best to proselytize them! I suppose I am incorrigibly narrow."

\*\*\*\*\*

"I sure wish I knew more of armies of the other countries, to compare. Books around here are just military handbooks, and tell nothing of the life in the English, German, Russian, Chinese, Indian, etc., armies. I wonder in the end how big their influence is upon the life of a people. Does being in the army permanently change one's thinking habits? I don't think so-not much. At least not this army. There is one thing, though. The mere fact that many races (except Negro) and nationalities and political beliefs live side by side in barracks with no discrimination...that is a good working of democracy. The terrible blot on all our life, of course, is the Negro problem, and the refusal of so many Americans to face it. Incidentally, Toshi's father has been working on Survey Graphic, and she sent me a copy of the November issue, called "Color, the Unfinished Work of Democracy"-and though all the articles or most of them, at least, were written by professors and liberals, in all it was a very interesting number. See if you can get a copy."

\*\*\*\*\*

"Sure is one big problem though, this gaining equality of women. I suppose in this country the problem is not so big as in Russia."

(EXHIBIT XIX)

Page 1.

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"I do believe though that this problem, like that of the Negro, will really be changed during my lifetime, and this is something to look forward to. You'd be surprised how many people cheered Dear Mr. President because of the democratic politics in it."

(EXHIBIT XIX)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 20, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SEEGER,  
Private, ASN 34335466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On March 16, 1943, a postal card addressed to Subject and postmarked "Miami, Fla., 2, Mar 13, 1943, 6:30 PM" was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

The card was originally addressed to P. Seeger, 430 6th Ave., New York City. This street address is marked through and 23 Downing St., New York City substituted therefor. This is crossed out and 3374 S.W. 25 N., Miami, Fla. substituted therefor. The latter is also crossed out and Subject's Keesler Field address entered. It is originally postmarked "Flushing, N.Y., 1, Oct 19, 1942, 8:30 PM".

On the reverse side appears the following:

C O P Y

CAMP RISING SUN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear Alumnus:

Remember that Round Robin Letter that's going out to our fellows in the services? Well, it's almost time for us to mail it out, and so, if you haven't already done so, please hurry and send your slips to P.O. Box 33, Walden, N.Y. Should you yourself be in the service already, or about to enter, would you be so kind as to let us know your address and all about it (at P.O. Box 33)?

To discuss the immediate future, we are going to have a meeting at 7:00 PM on Friday, October 23, in our clubroom at 55 W. 44th St., NYC. There will also be fun and refreshments. You might like to have dinner with some of the gang at the Horn and Hardart, 1165 Sixth Ave., Near 45th Street beforehand too.

TAD WRIGHT, Secretary

Operator's Note: The above address "3374 S.W. 25 N., Miami, Fla." probably should be "3374 S.W. 25 St., Miami, Fla.", this being the present address of Subject's mother as given in Memo M.

*Robert C. Josey II*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Keesler Field, Mississippi,  
March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: PETER SIEGER, Private,  
ASN 54635466,  
307th Technical School Squadron,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

Re: Mail Coverage.

On March 23, 1943, a letter from Subject to Pvt. Morton Dimondstein, ASN 32638099, Bg Batry. S87 F.A. Bn., A.P.O. 104, Camp Adair, Oregon, was intercepted at Keesler Field, Mississippi.

E X T R A C T

"Among others here, or near here, is a girl we used to know in the workshop, Sarah B. (and I don't know the rest of her last name. Anyway, she's down here with her husband, and has a new last name.) Her husband is being detained here for investigation by M.I. because he spent part of his life in Germany. Though he is perfectly loyal, needless to say. At any rate, he has been sitting around here for seven months! Sarah lives down in Biloxi, Miss., a mile away, and expects to have a baby soon. Matter of fact, I guess she's quit going to school now, for propriety's sake."

Operator's Note: "Sarah B", referred to above is undoubtedly the wife of Frederick K. Klaessig, ASN 32395644, who is now under investigation by this office for disaffection.

*Robert C. Josey III*  
ROBERT C. JOSEY, III,  
Special Operator, P.I.O.,  
Keesler Field, Mississippi.

(EXHIBIT XX)